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BARRY WINDHAM: "I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TOUGH RIC FLAIR CAN BE!"

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PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

GIANT KILLER!



Hogan Topples Andre At WrestleMania III

HOW I WOULD MAKE THE ROAD
WARRIORS WORLD CHAMPIONS!

By Capt. Lou Albano

When Gordy Wrestles For The
UWF Title . . .
THE GANG'S
ALL HERE!



RINGSIDE

With Bill Apter

WRESTLEMANIA III IS history, and in the aftermath of this incredible event—which drew a record crowd of 93,173 to the Pontiac Silverdome—wrestling historians are calling the **Rick Steamboat vs. Randy Savage** Intercontinental title match one of the greatest in WWF history.

Steamboat wrestled the title from Savage after 14 minutes and 35 seconds of action which included 19 two-counts (11 by The Dragon). Savage wrestled a brilliant match and had his arch-rival on the run from the early going. But Steamboat fought back and appeared to have the belt in his grasp when he collided with referee **Dave Hebner**.

Savage then ran outside the ring to grab the timekeeper's bell, but was knocked off by **George "The Animal" Steele** when he tried to climb up the turnbuckle. As Savage lay on the floor, Steamboat got off the ground, executed a reverse small package, and scored the pin just as Hebner came back to life. The fans cheered wildly as Steamboat held the belt over his head.

"I've seen a lot of matches in my day, but very few hold a candle to that Steamboat-Savage match," said veteran wrestling journalist **Matt Brock**. "These men are incredible athletes, real men, and they've done justice to the squared circle. It'll certainly be in the running for my 1987 Match of the Year."

In the other matches on this historic card: **The Can-Am Connection** defeated **Magnificent Muraco** and **Cowboy Bob Orton** when Martel pinned Muraco; **Billy Jack Haynes** and **Hercules Hernandez** battled to a double countout; **Little Beaver**, **The Haiti Kid**, and **Hillbilly Jim**



In the best match at Wrestlemania III, Rick Steamboat tangles Randy Savage in the ropes. After nearly 15 minutes of non-stop action, Steamboat pinned Savage to win the Intercontinental title.

won by disqualification over **Little Tokyo**, **Lord Littlebrook**, and **King Kong Bundy**; **Harley Race** pinned **Junkyard Dog**; **Brutus Beefcake** and **Greg Valentine** beat **The Rougeau Brothers**; **Roddy Piper** won by submission over **Adrian Adonis**; **The Hart Foundation** and **Danny Davis** beat **The British Bulldogs** and **Tito Santana**; **Butch Reed** pinned **Koko B. Ware**; **The Honky Tonk Man** pinned **Jake Roberts**; and **Nikolai Volkoff** and **The Iron Sheik** won by disqualification over **The Killer Bees**. A complete story about **Hulk Hogan's** victory over **Andre the Giant** in the main event can be found on page 32.

World Championship area officials announced that **Ivan Koloff** and **Dick Murdoch** have been stripped of the United States tag team belts. In addition, Murdoch was suspended from the NWA for 30 days. "The recent behavior of Mr. Murdoch forced us to make this decision," said **Jim Crockett**. "We felt that he acted with



Dick Murdoch whips Nikita Koloff across the ring. Murdoch has been suspended for 30 days for piledriving Koloff on the arena floor.

deliberate and premeditated intent to injure when he attacked **Nikita Koloff**."

It all started while Nikita was wrestling **Thunderfoot #2** at a television taping in Greenville, South Carolina. Murdoch ran into the ring and

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KING'S COURT

By Peter King



Curt Hennig's armbar puts a strain on AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel. The two have had some excellent scientific matches, with Hennig displaying the same persistence shown by The Midnight Rockers in their title quest.

I WILL BE the first to admit that WrestleMania III was a sensational event. It was the best of all the WrestleMania cards; indeed, the Steamboat-Savage bout was the best WWF bout I've seen in the post-Backlund era. And while the Hulk Hogan-Andre the Giant title match may not have been a scientific or an athletic showcase, it certainly carried more historic weight than any match in recent memory.

But it's easy to get caught up in the excitement and furor of Wrestle-

Mania III. Too easy. Let's not forget that there are other important headlines in the news this month:

The second annual Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tournament takes place in Baltimore. Last year's Crockett Cup tournament was an incredible card. Teams from the World Championship, Florida, Central States, Pacific Northwest, and UWF areas, as well as Canada and Japan, competed at The Superdome in New Orleans. This year, in Baltimore, the competi-

tion includes teams from World Championship, Florida, Mexico, and Japan. And while the geographic restrictions hurt the entrants somewhat, the competition in Baltimore should be fiercer than last year as the defending champion Road Warriors look to repeat their 1986 victory. I'm looking forward to being in Baltimore (just a few days after this issue goes to press), and you can look forward to complete Cup coverage (much in full-color!) in next month's "Supercards '87" special edition of *PWI*.

Curt Hennig continues his challenge to Nick Bockwinkel's AWA title. These may be the most underrated scientific bouts of 1987. Bockwinkel is a crafty veteran, Hennig the young upstart, but both command impressive repertoires of skills. Hennig's no-nonsense style of grappling and his straight-ahead attitude out of the ring may not make for great controversy or great flamboyance, but you've got to admit that he's a great wrestler. Bockwinkel has been attempting to dodge Hennig's challenge by signing many non-title matches, but Hennig is showing the same determination that The Midnight Rockers showed against Buddy Rose and Doug Somers. If I were a betting man, I'd wager that Hennig will win the World title by the time August rolls around.

The World Class area is looking good again. I don't mean to be overly flip with that headline. Last year, when the 1986 edition of the David Von Erich Memorial Parade of Champions featured a mud match between Sunshine and Missy Hyatt, the World Class area received a lot of sharp editorial barbs in this magazine. In the months that followed, many wrestlers left the World Class area for other horizons (Rick Rude, Chris Adams, Kabuki, and Iceman Parsons, for example), and Kerry Von Erich was taken out of action by a motorcycle accident. Now, a large in-

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DRESSING COMEDY ROOM

By Stu Saks



"Sweet" Stan Lane (left)—formerly of The Fabulous Ones—is the newest member of The Midnight Express. Jim Cornette recruited Lane after Mama Cornette fired Dennis Condrey for being the "weak link" of the team.

I'VE NEVER MET Jim Cornette's mother, but I don't like her. Any woman who can raise a Jim Cornette earns my contempt automatically. But sometimes you have to give credit where credit is due—no matter how painful that may be.

Mama Cornette is directly responsible for what may turn out to be 1987's Tag Team of the Year. The Midnight Express. Actually, the *new* Midnight Express: "Beautiful" Bobby Eaton and "Sweet"

Stan Lane. It was Mama Cornette who financed the training of the The Midnight Express, Eaton and "Loverboy" Dennis Condrey. And, for a time, she was happy with what her son did with that team. Said Jim Cornette, "While we held the NWA World tag team belts [for six months last year], Mama increased my allowance, had my swimming pool expanded, and added another tennis court in my backyard. She was about to buy me a Lamborghini when we

were robbed of the belts. Damn Morton and Gibson."

Since losing the belts to The Rock 'n' Roll Express last August in Philadelphia, Condrey and Eaton fell on some tough times. While still a highly regarded tag team (even without their manager's constant illegal assistance), the Midnights have found it difficult to distinguish themselves among a group of talented World Championship area tag teams that include such top combinations as current champions Rick Rude and Manny Fernandez, the Rock 'n' Rolls, The Road Warriors, Jim and Ron Garvin, Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger, and Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff.

We know one thing about Mama Cornette: She will not settle for mediocrity. Mama C. gives me the impression of being somewhat of a female George Steinbrenner. When things aren't going well, she isn't the most patient woman in the world. Of course, she can't fire her own son (if she had any character, she would have disowned him a long time ago), but she can demand certain changes. It was Mama C. who told Jimmy C. that Dennis C. was The Midnight Express' "weak link."

In her estimation, the weak link was Condrey, the senior member of the Express. In my estimation,

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WFOCUS

With CRAIG PETERS

RIC FLAIR—THE REPUTATION GROWS (AND SHRINKS!)

Look in the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Top 10 ratings this issue, and you'll see that Ric Flair is no longer ranked number one. That's the first time this has happened since our December 1986 issue, when Flair dropped to number seven in the wake of Dusty Rhodes' NWA World title victory at The Great American Bash.

There are a lot of reasons why Flair should be ranked number one, and there are a lot more reasons why he should be dumped out of the Top 10 completely. That's what makes wrestling such an interesting sport, and that's why antacids are prevalent at editorial meetings where ratings are the main subject (particularly this last one!).

Personally, I think Flair is one of the very best athletes in the sport today. He's superbly conditioned, extremely versatile, and is willing to go against a formidable man like Barry Windham with a remarkable 90-minute time limit.

But Flair's biggest problem isn't Flair, it's The Four Horsemen. Doesn't Flair understand how, even as the Horsemen are "saving" Flair in match after match, they're hurting him? Flair's reputa-



Ric Flair & Tully Blanchard vs. Nikita Koloff

tion as a champion is peerless, but the reputation (as a Horseman coward) is growing as respect (as a pure champion and a fine wrestler) is shrinking.

Flair should realize—he's got to realize—that the continued interference of the Horsemen is going to harm him in the long run. Not only will his championship reputation suffer (and Flair is a man who, quite obviously, thrives on reputation), but he will, sooner or later, become lazy. He'll forego that extra effort in favor of allowing his Horsemen brethren to save his title. And one of these days, perhaps sooner than he or

anyone suspects, the Horsemen won't be there to save him, and his resultant laziness will cost him his precious title.

That may be good news for the challenger of the night, but it's bad news for Flair. And, I think, for the NWA World title itself. I'd hate to see the championship change hands that way. Whoever defeats Flair—weeks, months, or even years from now—should not win the belt from a lazy champion.

But that's what may happen if Flair isn't careful. And if the Horsemen don't leave Flair and his opponents alone.

ADAMS FACES A TOUGH OPPONENT: PUBLIC OPINION

The question isn't easy to answer: How do you warn young people of the evils of alcohol and drugs without sounding too preachy, without turning them off by the very fact that you're warning them? Kids don't like to be warned, they like to do whatever they want to do. Tell a kid not to put beans in his nose, and the first thing you'll see is a kid with beans in his nose. How do you get around that kind of independent attitude when you're dealing with such an important subject?

"It's really, really tough," said Chris Adams, who is grappling with this very problem. "I go out and I speak with kids about drugs and alcohol, I speak at youth groups, and there's always a couple of kids who think they're smart, who have some kind of wise remark that tells me that they're simply not listening to a



Chris Adams

word I say. It's something I think about a lot because I think these are really the kids that I have to get through to. The ones that agree with me in the first place aren't the problem, it's the ones who think I'm just another authority figure to be ridiculed that are the problem.

"I can understand their point of view, though," Adams said. "I don't agree, but I understand. That attitude is what part of being a kid is all about. But damn it, I'm talking about *ruining* lives here, maybe even *ending* lives. Drugs and alcohol just get out of hand too easily, and they ruin too many lives. I was lucky, I got away in time, but there are plenty of people out there who aren't lucky, who won't get away in time.

"I don't want to tell kids what to do," Adams said with a sigh, "that's not my place. I just want them to understand. Maybe if they understand, they can make their own decisions, and lives will be at least improved, if not saved. Because if they understand, I'm confident they'll make the right decision. I *hope* they'll make the right decision."

Amen.

ADVANTAGE—HART FOUNDATION

I have to give Jimmy Hart a lot of credit. Not only has he found a method of protecting the title reign of his WWF World tag team champions Brett Hart and Jim Neidhart, but he's done so with a method that is not only attractive to fans, but lucrative to promoters.

Seems that The Hart Foundation is placing the belts on the line in a series of tag team tournaments around the country (and a few in Canada as well). Bring a bunch of tag teams together and let them battle it out for the right to wrestle for the title at the end of the evening.

The Harts sit back and watch as the other teams expend large amounts of energy trying to get that title shot. When the title match rolls around, the Harts are fresh, while the challengers have already wrestled two or three or four hard matches.



The Hart Foundation

The fans love these cards, because they get to see the WWF's top teams together in one arena at one time. Promoters love it because the fans love it, and ticket sales for tag team tournaments

are generally higher than for regular cards.

And the Harts love it because they're defending their belts against tired teams.

Good work, Jimmy Hart. ☐

NO HOLDS BARRED

with David Rosenbaum

TWO MONTHS OF incessant nagging had finally paid off. "Here," shouted Editor-in-Chief Peter King as he shoved a ticket to WrestleMania III into my hand. "Go to Detroit. Just get off my back, but I'm warning you: You'd better come back with something good."

So the big man had sounded his warning and the young reporter rode off into the sunset (or at least Kennedy Airport) for the long-awaited trip to Motown. The rule at *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* is that the veterans get to go to the big events and the rookies stay home. I had pretty much resigned myself to watching WrestleMania III in the comfort of my own den on pay-per-view, but when Managing Editor Stu Saks backed out of going to Detroit, I struck while the iron was hot.

Peter gave in. Peter *always* gives in. He gave in on the microwave for the office. He'll give in for the vending machine, too. This time, however, he got something in return, my contribution to WrestleMania III journalism: a reporter's-eye-view of the big event, match-by-match. Being there was more than half the fun.

The Can-Am Connection vs. Magnificent Muraco & Bob Orton. WrestleMania III is off to a good start. Women seem to go

wild over Rick Martel and Tom Zenk. The woman sitting next to me is wearing a mini-mini and one of those see-through lace blouses. She's pretty excited. I'm pretty excited, too. I miss most of the match because she keeps on bopping up and down. She's quite a bopper. She can watch Martel and Zenk all she wants; I'll watch her. The Can-Ams win. I'm cross-eyed.

Billy Jack Haynes vs. Hercules Hernandez. This seems like a good time to head off to the concession stands for some popcorn and a few beers. The lines are long at the Silverdome, but everybody's having a good time and everybody's in a good mood. Finally, I get to the front of the line, but they're out of popcorn, so I opt for peanuts. Peanuts taste much better at a ballgame than they do at a wrestling match. Beer always tastes the same. I get back to my seat and the bop-

ping woman tells me that the match ended in a double-countout. Talk about double-countouts!

Little Tokyo, Lord Littlebrook, & King Kong Bundy vs. Little Beaver, Haiti Kid, & Hillbilly Jim. While this match is going on, I take some time out to walk around the arena. This is an awesome place and it's packed to capacity: 93,173 screaming, lunatic fans. Many people are wearing "Hulkamania" T-shirts; a scattered few are wearing Andre the Giant tees. There are a lot of kids here and most of them came equipped with parents. Wrestling is, after all, a family sport and Sunday is a family day. All the parts have come together for this show.

Harley Race vs. Junkyard Dog. Rumor has it that this is the last we'll see of Junkyard Dog in the WWF. Thank goodness! The Dog is a sore loser. He was supposed to get down on his knees and bow down to Race after losing the match, but he didn't. Then he hit Race over the head with a chair. Rules are rules. Most of the

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Fans file in to the Pontiac Silverdome for WrestleMania III. Assistant Editor David Rosenbaum reports on the sights and sounds of this great event.

BARRY WINDHAM

**"I'VE
FORGOTTEN
HOW TOUGH
RIC FLAIR
CAN BE!"**



AROUND THE COUNTRY with Barry Windham and Ric Flair.

February 21, Philadelphia Civic Center: A brilliant match ends when Flair uses the ropes for leverage and pins Windham. Barry's protests go unheeded and the decision stands.

February 25, Hammond, Indiana: Another classic, but once again Flair uses illegal means to win the match. With Windham's foot on the ropes, and in full view of the crowd, Flair scores the pinfall. More protests fall on deaf ears.

March 1, Richmond Coliseum, Richmond, Virginia: It's the afternoon half of a Flair-Windham doubleheader. Flair, apparently realizing that a short match will allow

him to conserve his energy for a match that night, goes after Windham from the start. He takes only 20 minutes to score yet another illegal pin.

March 1, The Omni, Atlanta: A short plane flight and six hours later, Flair and Windham go at it again. Flair always does his best wrestling in The Omni and tonight is no exception. The World champion fends off a tireless effort by Windham and wins in 30 minutes. But this match is also tainted because Flair uses the ropes for leverage.

March 15, Metropolitan Sports Center, Bloomington, Minnesota: You get the picture. It's the same old story. The frustration shows all over Windham's face. The realiza-

tion that beating Flair is an extremely difficult undertaking has set in. Afterward, Windham faces the usual press corps and, with sweat dripping down his brow, says, "The man is a great wrestler. I've forgotten how tough Ric Flair can be."

The fact that Flair has won by illegal means seems lost on Windham. "That really doesn't matter," admits Windham. "I've had my chances to beat him, but I always fall a couple of inches short. It's my fault that I get myself into positions to get beaten by illegal means. I know what Flair does. He's been doing it for years and I should be able to get around it."

Windham takes a few deep breaths, takes a long sip from a

Barry Windham thought that given enough chances against Ric Flair he would win the NWA World championship. But now, with the losses and pinfalls adding up, the chances of Windham ever winning the title look slim at best



NWA World champion Ric Flair pulls Barry Windham's face (far left), traps him in the figure-four leglock (left), and hammerlocks him (above).

water bottle, and looks straight ahead at a questioner. "Yeah, I still think I can beat him," says Windham. "When the day comes that I think I can't beat another wrestler, I'll retire. Once you give up on yourself, you might as well find another profession. Listen, I said I would beat him and I will. It's just gonna take a little longer than I had thought."

It's easy to underestimate Ric Flair. He wears three-piece suits to interview sessions, looking more like a businessman than a professional wrestler. Flair doesn't have the physical build of a Lex Luger or Nikita Koloff, although he keeps himself in top shape. At times, Flair seems more preoccupied with women and partying than with wrestling, yet he'll get into the ring against the best wrestlers in the world and fend off one challenger after another. He seems too confident for his own good, but there's a reason for his confidence.

"The Nature Boy is way ahead of his time," boasts Flair. "Dusty Rhodes, The Road Warriors, The Rock 'n' Roll Express, Nikita Koloff, and now Barry Windham all thought they could beat me, but nobody does. You wrestling experts, you all talk about how washed up Ric Flair is, but Slick Ric just keeps on rolling like the unstoppable machine he is. Whoo!"

That's the Ric Flair wrestling fans see every Saturday on *World Championship Wrestling*. He looks like an easy target. "I used to watch him wrestling, and 90 percent of the time, he'd win by cheating," says Windham. "I figured, hey, I can beat him. All I have to do is keep him under control, keep The Four Horsemen from interfering. But all that is easier said than done. I, of all people, should have known."

"You know, when I was Florida champion, I wrestled Flair occasionally and he gave me a lot of

trouble. Nobody exhausted me like he did, because besides his cheating, he happens to be a very good scientific wrestler, one of the best I've ever faced. The thing about Flair is that he forces you to respect him. There isn't much choice. I hate to say this, but he's the champion until somebody beats him. Hopefully, it will be me."

But time is running out on Windham. His early matches against Flair were promising. Windham pushed Flair to the 60-minute time-limit on numerous occasions. Once, he had Flair pinned but the time limit ran out just before the referee was going to finish his three-count. He has never been able to deliver the finishing blow. "B.W., I think he let Flair off the ropes," says Dusty Rhodes. "He can still beat him, but it's gonna be a lot tougher now."

In other words, Windham had his chance to win the World championship. He had Flair on the run. But Flair regrouped, rethought his strategy, and started taking Windham more seriously. "You



Flair snapmares Windham, who says the champion must be recognized not only as a cheater, but as one of the best scientific wrestlers in the sport.



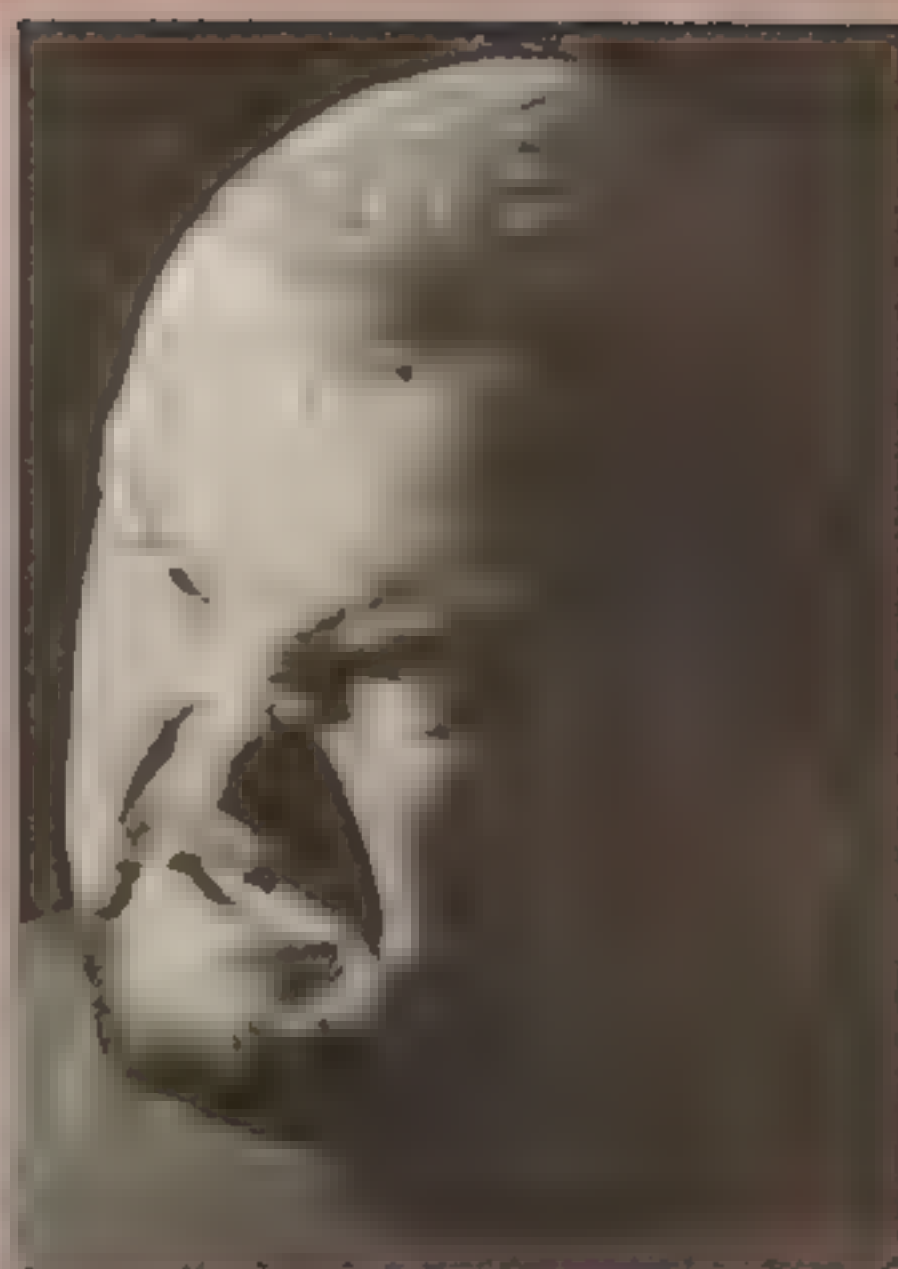
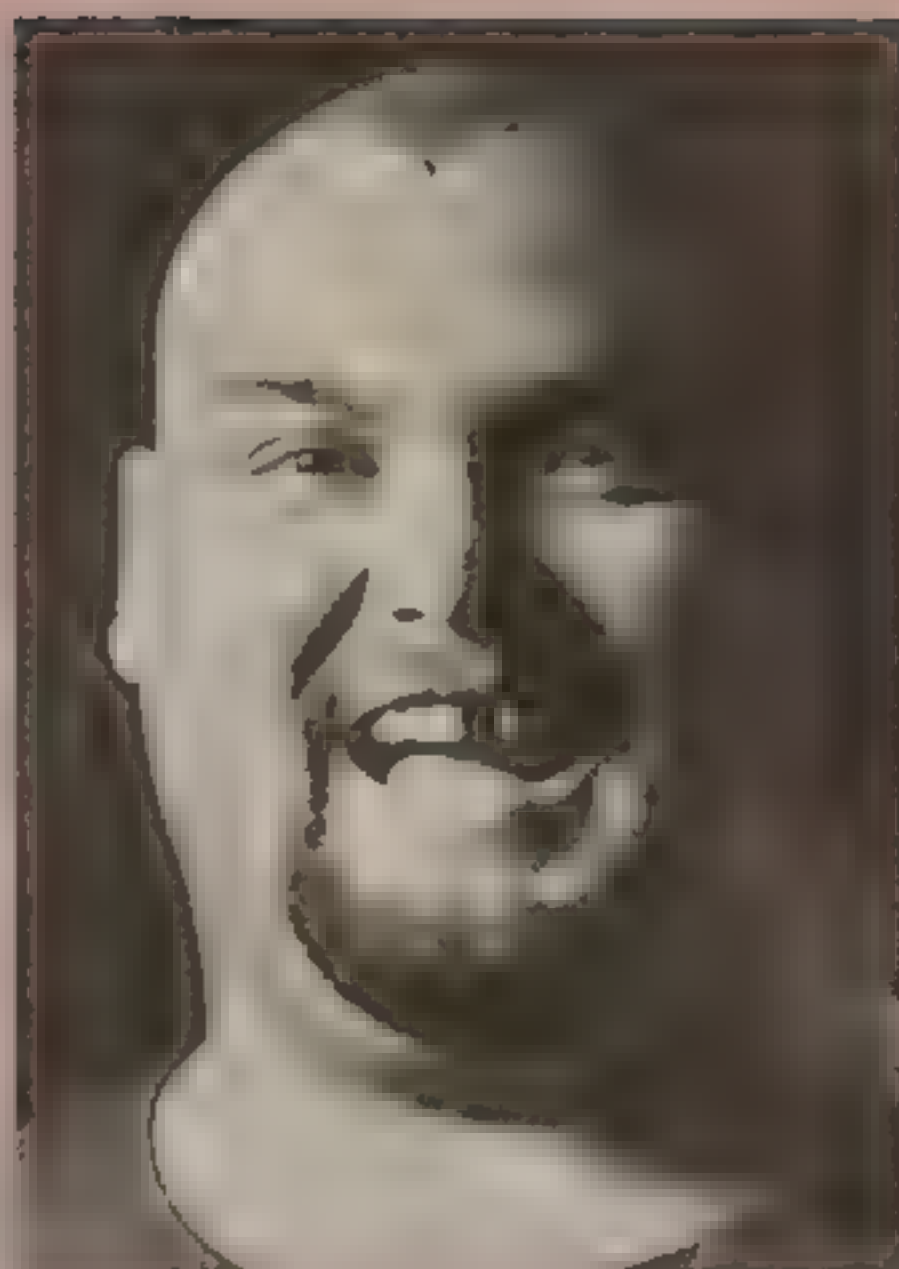
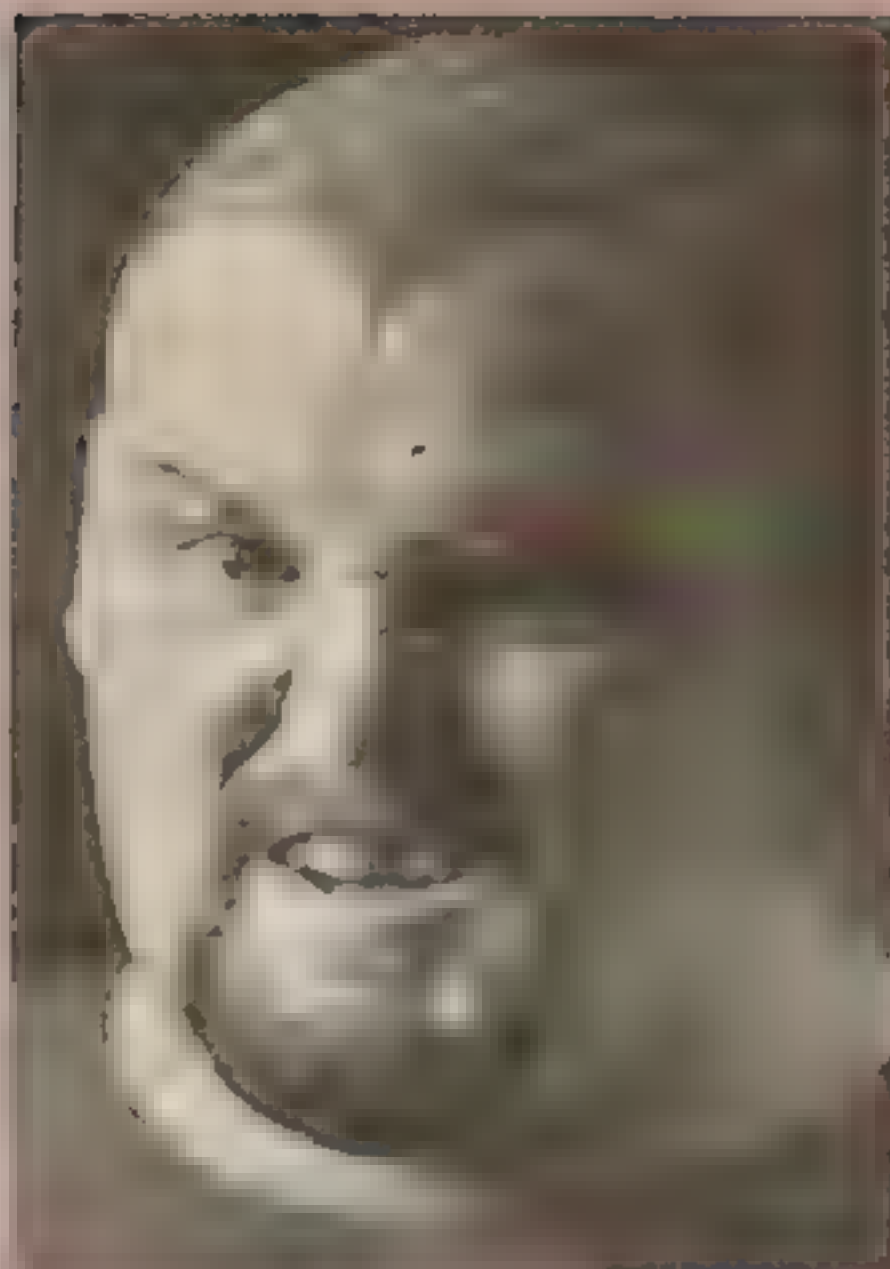
Flair snapmares Windham, who says the champion must be recognized not only as a cheater, but as one of the best scientific wrestlers in the sport.

ever hear that saying, 'Let sleeping dogs lie?' " asks Tully Blanchard. "Well, Barry Windham woke up a sleeping giant, the greatest wrestler in the sport. Windham made Flair take him seriously and that was his greatest mistake."

But what was Windham to do? He only knows one way of doing things: full speed ahead. Maybe it would have been a better idea for Windham to take things slowly. Instead of going after Flair right away, he might have tried to feel him out and get an idea of how to beat him. "Windham showed his hand right away and couldn't pin Flair," says J.J. Dillon. "Now he has nothing left to show and Ric's killing him."

That's probably an overstatement. Flair isn't dominating Windham. He is, however, teaching Windham a lesson on how good he can be. "You have to respect him," Windham says again. "He's proven himself. He's one tough customer. You'd better believe I'll never forget that again."

Unfortunately, it might be too late. □



"I try to be the best wherever I wrestle. It doesn't matter who I'm in there against or what town I'm in. I won't rest until I'm recognized as the best."

STU SAAS: Bam Bam, why did you come back to the Mid-Southern area?

BAM BAM BIGELOW: I was familiar with this area. The competition is better than a lot of people think. I'll tell you something, I never liked Lawler much. I always thought he only cared about looking good for the fans. But I was wrong about the guy. He's a damn good wrestler. He asked me for help and I gave it to him. He's no great friend of mine, but I respect him.

ANDY RODRIGUEZ: How does it feel teaming with a guy you were feuding with less than a year ago?

BIGELOW: Listen, I can't dwell on the past. You're mad at somebody one day, you forget about it the next. Like I said, Jerry needed help and I gave it to him. That's all there is to it.

DAVE ROSENBAUM: It sounds like you might turn on Lawler again, if the price is right.

BIGELOW: I can't think that far ahead. I prefer to concentrate on the present. I'd only turn on him if he did something to deserve it.

BILL APTER: Bam Bam, why did you change your name to Crusher Yurkot last year?



Bigelow's former manager, Larry Sharpe, prevents Tony Atlas from rolling out of the way of a nuclear splash. Before Bigelow left Texas, Atlas beat him for the World Class TV title. When Bigelow returned to Memphis, Sharpe did not come with him.

BIGELOW: I was a confused kid, looking for something to believe in. Things weren't going well in Memphis, titlewise. I wanted to do something that would really tick off everybody. It was

my way of rebelling against the wrestling establishment.

SAKS: But why choose to follow the ways of the Soviet Union?

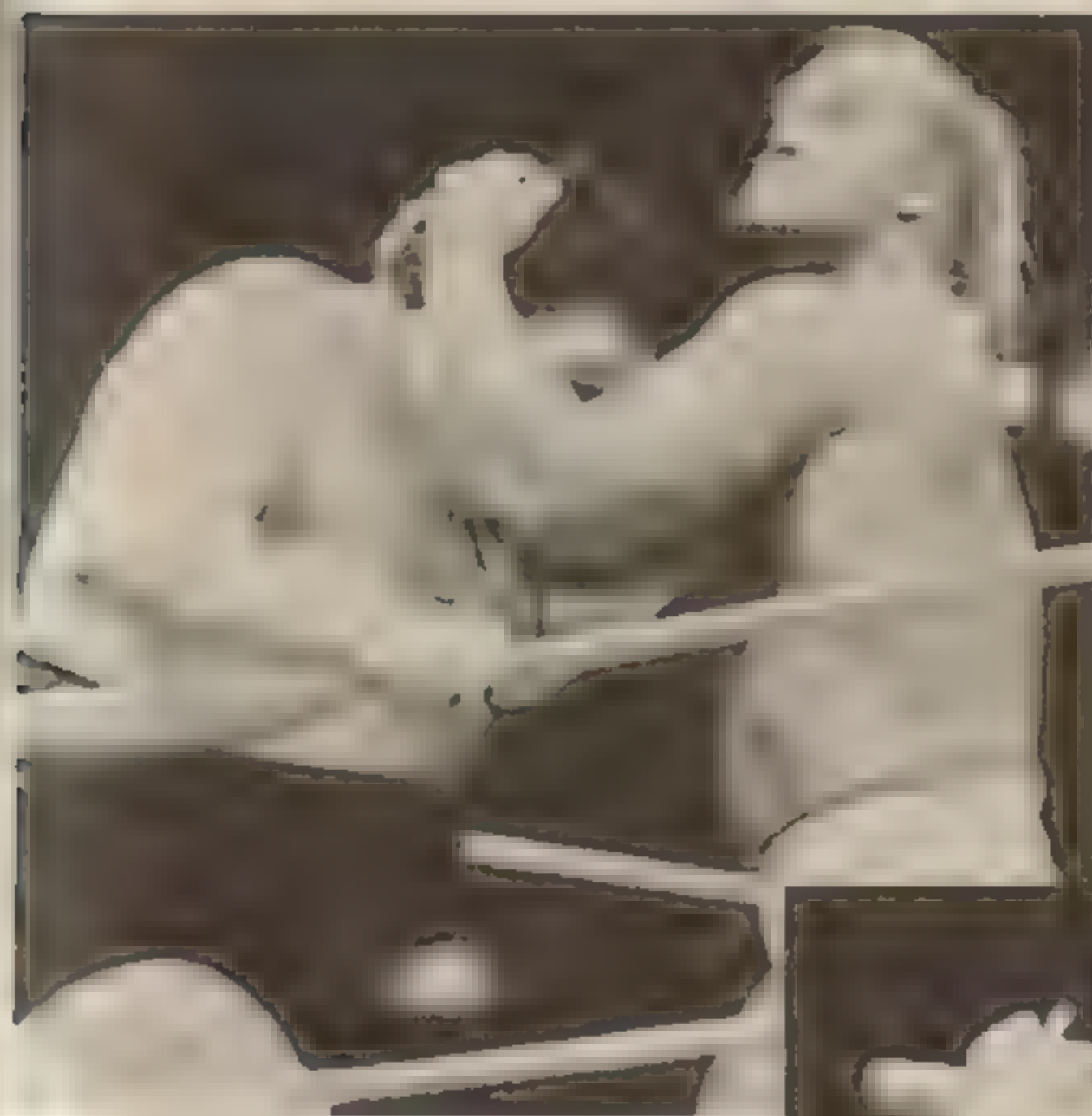
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Hogan Topples Andre

GIANT KILLER!

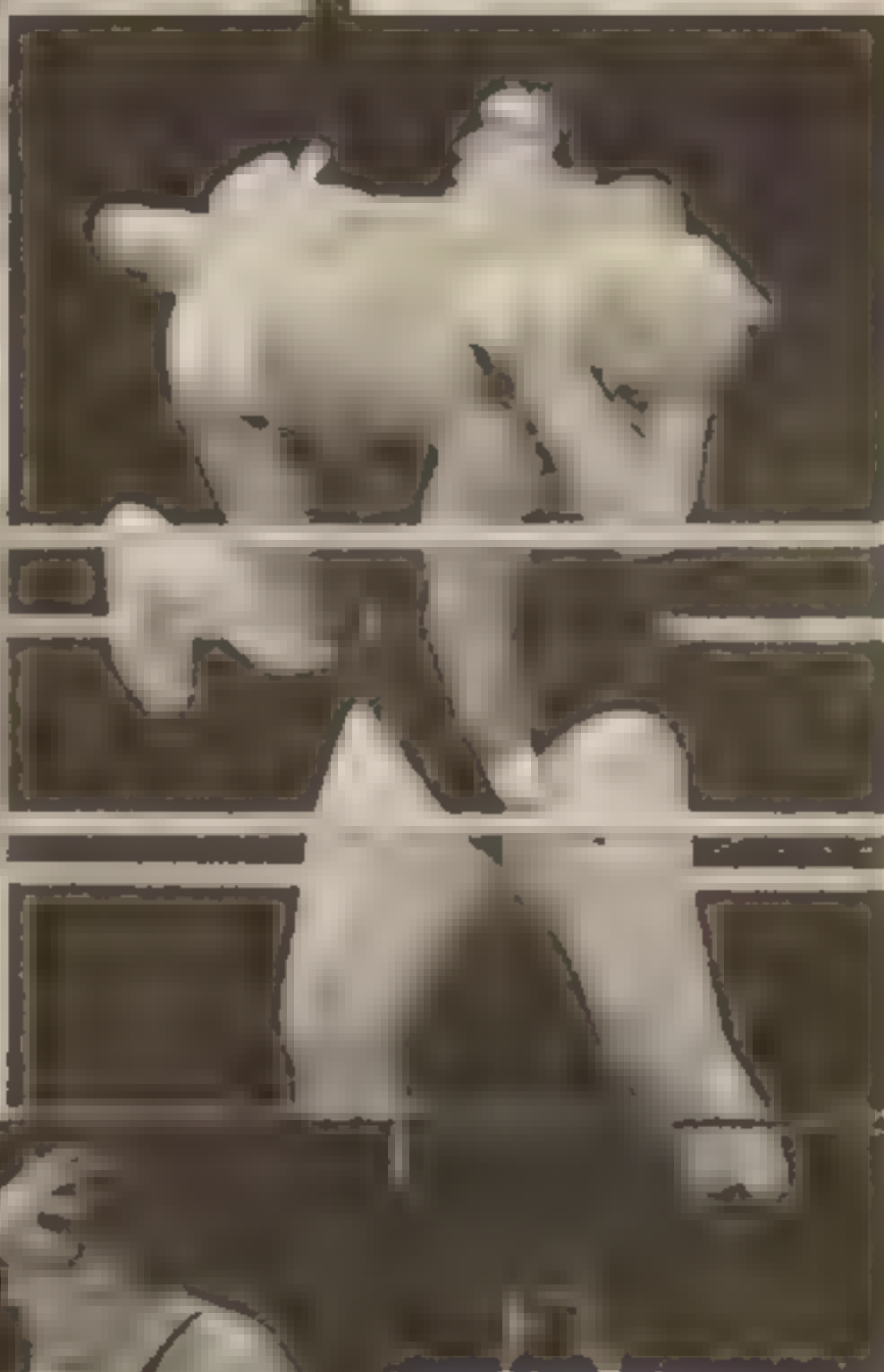


At WrestleMania III



WWF World champion Hulk Hogan looks to the crowd for inspiration after he finally gains the advantage over Andre the Giant in their title match at WrestleMania III.

Andre lifts Hogan up for a bodyslam. For years, the Giant had been waiting for a title shot. He finally got his chance after turning rulebreaker and hiring Bobby Heenan to manage him. This shocked the champion, who says he had admired and respected Andre for many years.



The champion slugs Andre. Many fans thought that Andre was terribly out-of-shape for the match, therefore Hogan's victory was less impressive than it should have been. Nevertheless, Hogan has proven he is the man to beat in the WWF.

The largest indoor crowd in North American history was on hand at The Pontiac Silverdome to witness an epic confrontation between WWF World champion Hulk Hogan and the undefeated Andre the Giant. When it was over, Hogan was crowned, once and forever, the Giant killer!

HISTORY HAS A strange way of repeating itself. Lightning sometimes does strike twice. What goes around *does* come around. And so it was in the opening moments of the main event at WrestleMania III, when Andre the Giant had Hulk Hogan pinned to the mat, and the WWF World championship belt seemed to be within his grasp.

Suddenly, it was August 1980 in New York's Shea Stadium, when the beloved Andre the Giant, still undefeated, still the people's champion, took on a hated young up-and-comer named Hulk Hogan. Andre unleashed the full force of his enormous strength and had Hogan at a disadvantage for most of that match. In the end, Andre delivered a powerslam to pin Hogan, but in the following days, videotapes of the match revealed that Hogan had thrown Andre off just as the referee made the three-count.

The decision stood. Seven years later, WWF World champion Hulk Hogan got revenge.

Not more than 10 seconds had elapsed in their epic March 29 bout at The Pontiac Silverdome when Hogan tried to slam Andre but fell backward under his own weight. Andre covered Hogan for the pin, and referee Joe Marella gave the three-count. But, Hogan had lifted his shoulder a fraction of a second be-

HOGAN VS. ANDRE—BLOW BY BLOW

The following is a complete blow-by-blow account of the Andre the Giant vs. Hulk Hogan match at WrestleMania III.

At the outset, Hogan and Andre engage in a staredown lasting nearly 50 seconds ... Andre shoves Hogan ... Hogan punches Andre, goes for a slam, but falls back under the Giant's weight ... Andre thinks he scored the pinfall and begins to celebrate, but Hogan's shoulder was up at the count of two ... Hogan's back was hurt by the slam attempt, however ... Andre follows up on the injury and kicks Hogan in the back ... Andre picks Hogan up and delivers three forearm shots to Hogan's back ...

Andre knee-lifts Hogan in the face ... Andre picks up Hogan and delivers two bodyslams ... As Hogan is struggling to get up off the mat, Andre steps on the champion's back ... Andre pulls Hogan to his feet by the tights, whips him into the corner, grabs him again, and whips him into the opposite corner ...

Andre moves in and chokes Hogan in the corner ... Andre delivers two shoulderblocks, then turns around and delivers a crushing rear end butt ... Andre headbutts Hogan, chokes him, and delivers a second headbutt ... Hogan slips under the second headbutt and crawls through Andre's legs ... Hogan scrambles to his feet and delivers two rights ... Hogan rebounds off the ropes and delivers another right

Hogan rebounds from the ropes again and delivers an elbow to Andre's head ... Hogan delivers three chops ... Hogan smashes Andre's head into the turnbuckle 10 times in a row ... Hogan steps back



Andre's 2.34 bearhug

to charge in, but Andre lifts his leg at the last second and delivers a boot to Hogan's jaw ... Andre chops Hogan, then clamps on a bearhug that lasts a full 2:34 ... Hogan, avoiding submission by holding his arm up on the referee's third check, begins punching away wildly at Andre's head ... Hogan punches Andre a total of 14 times, hurting his hand on the 12th punch ... Hogan rebounds off the ropes and delivers a shoulderdrive ... Hogan delivers another shoulderdrive ...

On his third shoulderdrive attempt, Hogan is met by Andre's elbow

Andre whips Hogan into the ropes and meets him with a foot to the midsection on the rebound ... Hogan falls out of the ring and Andre follows ... Andre chops Hogan ... Hogan, his back to the ringpost, moves out of the way of Andre's headbutt;

Andre's head smashes into the ringpost ... Hogan pulls back the padded floor mat to piledrive Andre on the bare floor ... Andre counters the piledriver by backdropping Hogan to the floor ... Andre throws Hogan back into the ring ... Andre whips Hogan into the ropes, but misses with his foot when Hogan ducks under on the rebound ... Hogan bounces off the ropes and clotheslines Andre ... Both men are down ... Hogan, up first, scoops Andre up and bodyslams him ... Andre is stunned, and Hogan follows up with a legdrop ... Referee Joe Marella scores Hogan's clean pinfall victory at the 12:01 mark.

fore the third beat of Marella's hand, too late for the referee to reverse his arm's momentum. Andre thought he had won and protested the decision, but the match went on.

Just under 12 minutes later, after Andre had dominated almost the entire match without being able to score the killing blow, Hogan became a permanent part of wrestling history. His pin of the 7'5", 525-

pound Giant after 12 minutes and one second marked the first time ever that Andre had been cleanly pinned.

The champ had erased all doubts, doubts that had built up over the seven years since his last meeting with Andre. Remember when Andre came out to "congratulate" Hogan after Hulk received a trophy for his three years as WWF World champi-



Andre slams Hogan. Surprisingly, the Giant would be on the receiving end of a slam later in the match.

on? Andre said, "Three years is a long time." Well, seven years is an even longer time.

Andre was a hero back then, and he was still on top of his game. He had never received a WWF title shot but didn't seem to care. Andre basked in the love of the fans, his personal love of the sport, and his growing legend. Hogan, a 6'8" muscleman, was under the management of Freddie Blassie and had yet to achieve worldwide fame for his part in *Rocky III*.

Look at what's happened since then: Hogan moved on to the AWA for a spell before returning to the WWF as a fan favorite. In 1984, he won the World championship by defeating The Iron Sheik and proved his mettle against all competition in the WWF. Hogan established himself as the biggest (and richest) star in the sport and became the man who the WWF built itself around.

Andre continued on undefeated, but now took second billing to Ho-

(Continued on page 62)

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

T.V. SPORTS

CLOSE-UP

GORGEOUS JIM GARVIN

GORGEOUS JIM GARVIN is one of the flashiest and most flamboyant wrestlers in the sport . . . His trademark phrase is "It's not my fault!" though it usually is . . . Despite relatively small size (5'10½", 235 pounds), is extremely self-confident in the ring

. . . A master at psyching out his opponent and an excellent technical wrestler

. . . Born and raised in Montreal, Quebec . . . Wrestled and played hockey in high school . . . Turned down a wrestling scholarship from the University of Montreal to tour with brothers Ronnie and Terry, who were already established pro wrestlers in Georgia . . . Surprised the wrestling establishment when he became his older brothers' manager . . .

Maligned by the fans for his interference in tag team matches . . . Guided his brothers to the Georgia tag team title in 1974 . . . Left them to pursue a solo career . . . Moved on to Florida, where he changed his wrestling philosophy under the guidance of Dusty Rhodes . . . A long string of victories earned him several shots at Harley Race's NWA World title . . . Began to

team regularly with Mike Graham, feuding with wrestlers in J.J. Dillon's stable . . . Donned a mask and began competing as Mr. Jacksonville . . . Dillon signed to wrestle the masked man, convinced that he was Graham . . . Dillon managed to unmask the wrestler to find Garvin . . . Impressed with Garvin's tenacity, Dillon offered him a large signing bonus . . . Dillon gave Garvin the "Gorgeous" nickname . . . After Garvin accepted the offer, Dillon led him and John Studd to the Global tag team championship . . . While holding the tag title, Garvin won the Southern title from Sweet Brown Sugar . . . As a gift for his success, Dillon hired a female valet named Precious (not the same woman he is with today) to groom him and tend to his ring outfits . . . Garvin said she would be the first in a long line of attractive valets . . . Precious proved too much a distraction to Garvin as he lost the Southern belt to Rhodes and the Global tag team title to Barry Windham and Ron Bass . . . With a new valet, Sunshine, Garvin moved on to Texas and World Class wrestling, where he began to feud with the Von Erichs . . . Took ZZ Top's "Sharp Dressed Man" as his theme music . . . Was accused of hiding behind Sunshine . . . Traded the World Class American belt with David Von Erich in a series of title matches . . . Contract stipulation for one match against David called for the loser to be the winner's servant for a day . . . When Garvin lost, David put him and Sunshine to work on the Von Erich ranch, where they had to clean the stables . . . Brought in the current Precious—initially called Sunshine II—as an assistant to Sunshine . . . The two women did not get along from the start and, in fact, began a violent feud . . . Garvin fired Sunshine and took Precious as his sole valet . . . Precious picked up Sunshine's



practice of spraying the ring with a smelly perfume before the start of Garvin's matches . . . Like Sunshine, she frequently sprayed his opponents' eyes

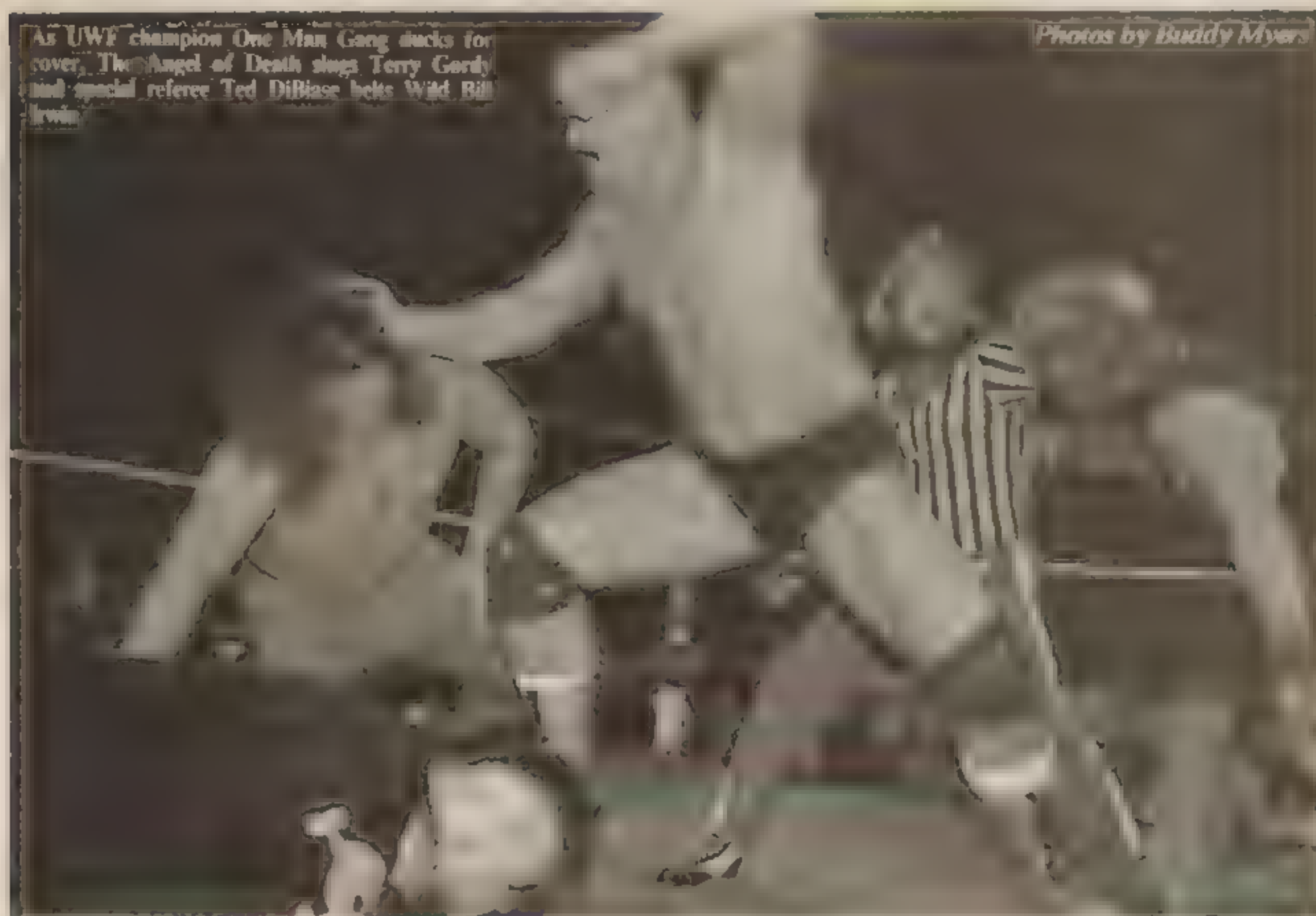
. . . Garvin lost the American belt to Chris Adams, who had taken Sunshine as his adviser . . . Later regained the belt from Adams . . . Garvin and Precious lost a loser-leave-town match to Adams and Sunshine . . . They toured Japan, where the promoters offered them a lot of money to stay permanently . . . Came to the AWA late in 1984 . . .

Immediately established himself as a top contender for Rick Martel's AWA World title . . . Although he came close, Garvin failed to wrest the belt from Martel . . . Garvin charged that Martel "has the AWA championship committee living in his basement" . . .

Overly concerned about Garvin's safety, Precious hired Butch Reed as a bodyguard . . . Reed left almost as quickly as he had arrived . . . Garvin teamed with brother Ronnie in a Montreal match against Dino Bravo and Gino Brito Jr. . . . Despite winning, the two brothers went their own separate

ways again . . . Began wrestling in tag team competition with Steve Regal . . . With Freebird Michael Hayes' interference, Garvin and Regal stunned the wrestling world by winning the AWA World tag team belts from The Road Warriors on September 29, 1985 . . . Despite Hayes' helping them win the belts, they refused to give The Freebirds a title shot . . . Lost the title to Scott Hall and Curt Hennig four months later in a 58-minute match in Albuquerque, New Mexico . . . He and Precious came to the World Championship area in the spring of 1986 . . . Although brother Ronnie was wrestling there, they ignored each other, citing philosophical differences . . . Began a feud with Ronnie's good friend, Wahoo McDaniel . . . At nine of the 14 Great American Bash cards during the summer of 1986, Garvin and McDaniel wrestled in Indian strap matches . . . Garvin lost all nine . . . Wrestled to a draw with Brad Armstrong at Starrcade '86 . . . Teamed with Bill Dundee for a short time . . . Reunion with his brother came when Jim Cornette threw fire in Ronnie's face during a match between Ronnie and Barry Windham and The Midnight Express . . . Garvin ran to the ring to save his brother, then attacked Cornette in the dressing room . . . Went with Ronnie to the hospital . . . On the way, they patched up their differences . . . Garvin has vowed to eliminate Cornette and his stable one by one, starting with Big Bubba Rogers . . . Precious reportedly had been planning the brothers' reconciliation long before the burning incident . . . Soon afterward, they formed a tag team . . . Jim and Ronnie were slated to wrestle together at the second annual Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament in Baltimore . . . Garvin, finally having admitted his love for his brother, says he has never been happier. □

When Gordy Wrestles For The UWF Title . . .



THE GANG'S ALL HERE!

And the gang is UWF champion One Man Gang, manager General Skandor Akbar, and stablemates Angel of Death and Wild Bill Irwin. They've all had a part in the defense of the UWF title, making Gordy's bid for the belt a futile effort

MANAGER SKANDOR AKBAR prefers to not use the word "cheating" when discussing One Man Gang's defense of the Universal Wrestling Federation heavyweight championship. In his somewhat deluded eyes, outside interference has played no part in the Gang's longer-than-expected UWF title reign.

So how's this, General Akbar? Joint venture. One Man Gang's title bouts have developed into a group effort,

outside contributions welcome. The UWF heavyweight champion? Why, it's Devastation Inc., and nobody knows this better than Terry Gordy and The Fabulous Freebirds.

"Akbar, [Wild Bill] Irwin, and that backstabber Angel of Death should be banned from ringside," argues Michael Hayes. "I've had numerous discussions about this with UWF officials, but it's become apparent to me that there's a plot to protect One Man Gang and

keep The Freebirds from any and all UWF titles. Well, let me tell you something, I'm not gonna put up with any of this crap for long!"

What might have fired Hayes' ire was a just-completed match between Gordy and One Man Gang in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Hayes and Buddy Roberts joined Gordy at ringside while Gang came to the ring with Akbar, Irwin, and Angel of Death, the former Freebird bodyguard.



Before the bell rang, a six-way brawl broke loose that threatened to halt the scheduled title bout. But the referee finally broke things up, at least long enough for Gordy and Gang to get a few good blows in. In just a matter of minutes, however, both sides ran into the ring again, leading to the disqualification of both men.

"Me and Buddy wouldn't be there if Akbar, Irwin, and The Angel of Death weren't there," claims Hayes. "I'd be out of my mind, feeding my man to the lions, if I let him go to the ring again. What I'm saving is that when Bamm Bamm wrestles One Man Gang, nobody should be allowed at ringside. I'm willing to play by those rules if

Akbar is."

Akbar, though, isn't budging. "I'm not falling into that stupid American's dumb American trap," says the ringmaster of Devastation Inc. "He's trying to fool everybody. He'll get his way and before you know it Hayes will be running to the ring in the middle of a match. Well, I'm not gonna let that sneaky American get away with his sneaky American tricks."

This is a problem the UWF is apparently refusing to deal with. Wrestling has forever been plagued with the question of what to do about outside interference. The Four Horsemen are constantly interfering in NWA World champion Ric Flair's matches. Flair has been saved on countless occasions. The Hart Foundation would have lost the WWF World tag team belts long ago if not for the input of manager Jimmy Hart and ref-turned-wrestler Danny Davis.

Yet, managers are protected by the rules of wrestling, which clearly state that a wrestler is allowed to have a manager or second at ringside. In fact, it has been argued that wrestlers who come to the ring with managers suffer far less injuries than wrestlers without



One Man Gang chokes Gordy with a chain (top) and hits him with a chair (above). The two are incapable of having a cleanly fought match.

managers. Former WWF World champion Bob Backlund might have been permanently injured if manager Arnold Skaaland wasn't at ringside to throw in the towel during the title loss to The Iron Sheik.

There is clearly a conflict of rules. On one hand, wrestlers are allowed to have a manager at ringside. On the other hand, these same managers illegally interfere in matches. Some people have suggested that managers be put in a cage before a match and released after the match is over. But the very idea of putting human beings in cages to control their behavior is barbaric and inhumane. Professional wrestling cannot sink to these levels.

"What we have here is two camps of uncontrollable individuals," says UWF official Jim Ross. "Now, I know that Akbar and his men are rulebreakers in the worst way, but The Freebirds are not exactly a bunch of choir boys. In reality, The Freebirds are just getting a little of their own medicine and they can't take it. The opinion of the UWF Board of Directors is that when you have two rulebreaking teams like this going at each other, it's a better idea to just leave them alone."

Naturally, Gordy has a different opinion of the situation. "I was robbed of the title by those executive stiffs and now they're trying to keep me from getting it back," he says. "It's very obvious that the UWF has something against me, and Devastation Inc. is taking full advantage of this."

There have been very, very few Gordy-Gang matches without outside interference. None of their matches have ended in a clean pinfall. During most confrontations, The Freebirds and Akbar's men ominously stalk around the ring, threatening to break loose at any moment. It is not a pretty sight. It has done little to distinguish the UWF title.

"If that's the way the UWF wants it, that's the way they're gonna get it," says Hayes. "If they're not gonna enforce the rules, I'm gonna have to enforce them myself. I'm not gonna let my man get double- or triple-teamed by those guys. Maybe he won't win the



Gang digs his heel into Gordy's neck (above left). Irwin interferes in a title match (above right), then gets some help from Angel of Death (below). Announcer Jim Ross says the UWF officials prefer to let The Freebirds and Devastation Inc. settle their feud without being disciplined.



title, but he's not gonna get killed, either. Meanwhile, the UWF title will be seen as as a sham."

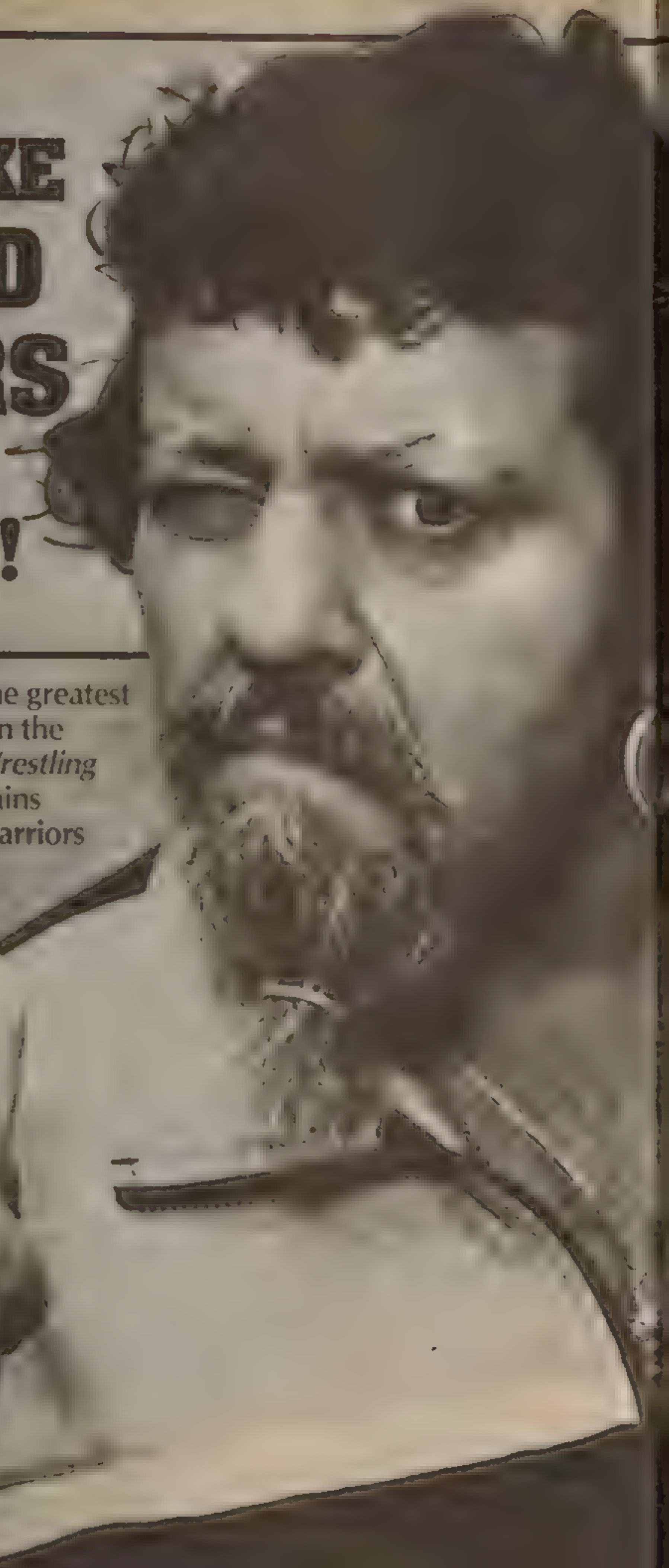
That's really the shame of it all. And

while Skandor Akbar might be singing, "Hail! Hail! The gang's all here," the truth is that all is not right with the UWF championship. □

HOW I WOULD MAKE THE ROAD WARRIORS WORLD CHAMPIONS!

By Capt. Lou Albano

Capt. Lou Albano is undeniably the greatest manager of tag team champions in the history of wrestling. In this *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* exclusive, Albano explains how he would make The Road Warriors fulfill their awesome potential





Road Warrior Animal sets up Mamy Fernandez for a high press slam (above left). Rick Rude armbars Road Warrior Hawk (above right). Capt. Lou Albano says he knows what the Warriors need to capture Rude and Fernandez's NWA World tag team title.

YOU KNOW, DADDY, I just want to say that I'm honored, I'm pleased, and I'm extremely happy that *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* asked me to author an article for their readers, an article by the 1986 Manager of the Year, by the greatest tag team manager of all time, by the guiding light of 13 different tag teams to an unprecedented, unimagined, unbelievable record of 16 WWF World tag team titles, by yours truly, The Captain.

There's a lot going on in the wrestling world, and even though I'm spending a lot of time working in Hollywood, appearing on *Hollywood Squares* and on *Miami Vice* and working on a new movie with my main lady, Cyndi Lauper, and raising money to help stamp out the ugliest disease of all time, multiple sclerosis, even though I'm doing all these things, I'm happy to take time out to talk to my friends, my fans, the readers of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, you people who voted me a three-time Manager of the Year.

The topic of discussion, then, as I stand it, is The Road Warriors.

Like I said, even though I'm busy, even though I'm working hard, as hard as ever, I'm still aware of what's going on, I still follow the news, and according to the news I read, a lot of fans believe that The Road Warriors have lost their killer instinct.

First of all, I don't believe there's such a thing as losing killer instinct. Killer instinct is something that once you have it, you always have it, and that's just the way it is. But you know, that instinct can become dormant, it can go into hibernation, if you will, like a caterpillar in a cocoon, and when the emergence from the cocoon takes place, that creature is a different creature completely, and this is what I believe is happening with Hawk and Animal. They have not lost their killer instinct, it has simply been internalized, and the team is undergoing a series of changes that only they and their manager, Paul Ellering, would understand.

From the outsider's point of view, however, I believe that there's a certain amount of control that Mr. Ellering—whom I respect as a colleague—that Mr. Ellering does not exercise. I believe that Paul Ellering is a man of great knowledge, he's an economic and strategic genius, but he is not a hands-on manager, and in order to really take control and guide a team to the top, and do it quickly, and most efficiently, you have to exercise hands-on control of that team 24 hours a day. That is my style.

I believe that the dormant killer instinct of Hawk and Animal could be rekindled if they were to be made hungry again, and that's an aspect of hands-on managing that I would emphasize were I to guide their career. Because the Warriors are a team that, by your very looking at them, you know that they should have world tag team belts around their waists. And they have the power, they have the strength, but they just don't have the hunger.

In fact, I have friends in Japan, Tokiashoki Mukinakimani is one,

who write to me, who telephone me, and they reported that when the Warriors won the All-Japan International tag team belts, it was more because of their natural excellence, not because of any hunger or drive for the belts that they made. Their natural talent won them those prestigious belts, and that's without even being hungry, without driving to the maximum. If I were manager, I would force them, pummel them,



Rude and Fernandez double-team Hawk (above). Rude gives Hawk a forearm smash (below). Albano still thinks Paul Ellering is a fine manager.



train them, make them hungry, make them angry, make them desperate, make them drive to the maximum, because if they did that, they would be world tag team champions within a week.

Now let me tell you some nuts and bolts I would do: 1) Prevent them from wrestling in Japan. Concentrate on American foes, forget about fat Japanese paydays, and don't lose all that training time in travel. 2) Step up their training regi-

men. They should train six hours a day, make it nine, because free time has to be eliminated completely. 3) As I just noted, eliminate *all* free time, until such time as world titles are gained. I might also cut off the finances, set up a reward-for-title system, and give them a goal to shoot for. Squeeze the contractual blood out of the human rocks they are, take over total control of their lives, and make them angry again. It may sound cruel, but if Hawk and Animal get angry, there isn't anyone they can't beat. And every fan reading this knows I'm right.

I would also isolate them from spending time with the so-called fan favorites of the sport. Isolate them from free time, from fan favorites, from anything and everything except a tunnel vision toward the title. Put the blinders on. And it can be any title: the NWA, WWF, or AWA World belts, but pick a goal and go for it.

My friend Willie Apter filled me in on what happened just before last year's Great American Bash, that the Warriors were on the verge of winning the NWA World tag team belts, and that they didn't move in for the kill. They've got to get angry, they've got to move in for that kill. And they can do it. They haven't *lost* any killer instinct, they've simply got to stoke the fires some more. And it *can* be done, believe me.

I just want to finish off by saying to Mr. Ellering that I have no desire to manage the Warriors. This article is not an offer to Hawk and Animal, or a suggestion that they should change managers. You are doing a fine job, Paul Ellering, and I believe that the reason *PWI* asked me to write this is that we both have different managing styles, and they wanted to know what I might do if given the chance to manage Hawk and Animal. But I don't want that chance, I simply want to stamp out multiple sclerosis, and I hope every reader out there sends a dollar, a quarter, or a dime for this great cause. All right! □

RINGSIDE

(Continued from page 8)

piledrived Koloff on the arena floor, forcing Nikita to wrestle with a brace around his neck. The NWA then suspended Murdoch for 30 days, making it impossible for Murdoch and Ivan to defend the belts.

"This is ridiculous American rule," said Ivan. "How can stupid American wrestling officials expect us to defend belts when they suspend partner? I am going to protest decision to my comrades in Kremlin. They will immediately break off trade relations with United States."

Big news for Florida as **Wahoo McDaniel** is headed to the Sunshine State ... **Ricky Santana** defeated **Rip Oliver** in Portland for the Pacific Northwest title ... In the Mid-Southern area, **Alan West** kidnapped **Bambi**, valet for **The Hunter**. Bambi escaped after 10 minutes of what she called "terror" by West ... Central States champion **Bulldog Bob Brown** has been pinned a number of times by **Rufus R. Jones** in non-title matches, but refuses to grant him a title shot

The AWA has a big tag team tournament planned for Easter Sunday, with the winner getting a title shot at **The Midnight Rockers** the very same night. Some of the teams scheduled to be on hand are: **Nick Bockwinkel** and **Ray Stevens**, **Greg Gagne** and **Curt Hennig**, **Super Ninja** and **Mr. Saito**, **Col. DeBeers** and **Larry Zbyszko**, and others. "This should be a great tournament," said AWA President **Stanley Blackburn**. "I'd like to thank **Marty Jannetty** and **Shawn Michaels** for accepting this challenge."

The Fantastics' World Class tag team belts have been held up. Champions **Bobby Fulton** and **Tommy Rogers** were wrestling **The Rock 'n' Roll R.P.M.s** when referee **Rick Hazzard** was knocked unconscious. Fulton and **Tommy Lane** were the legal men in the ring while Rogers and **Mike Davis** battled outside the ring.



Eric Embry, a friend of the R.P.M.s, ran into the ring and piledrived Fulton, who was bodypressing Lane, then pushed Lane out of the ring. Hazzard then woke up, just as Embry (who was dressed in an R.P.M. outfit) pinned Fulton. The ref made the count, but World Class referee-official **David Manning** ran in and set matters straight. It was then decided that the belts would be held up.

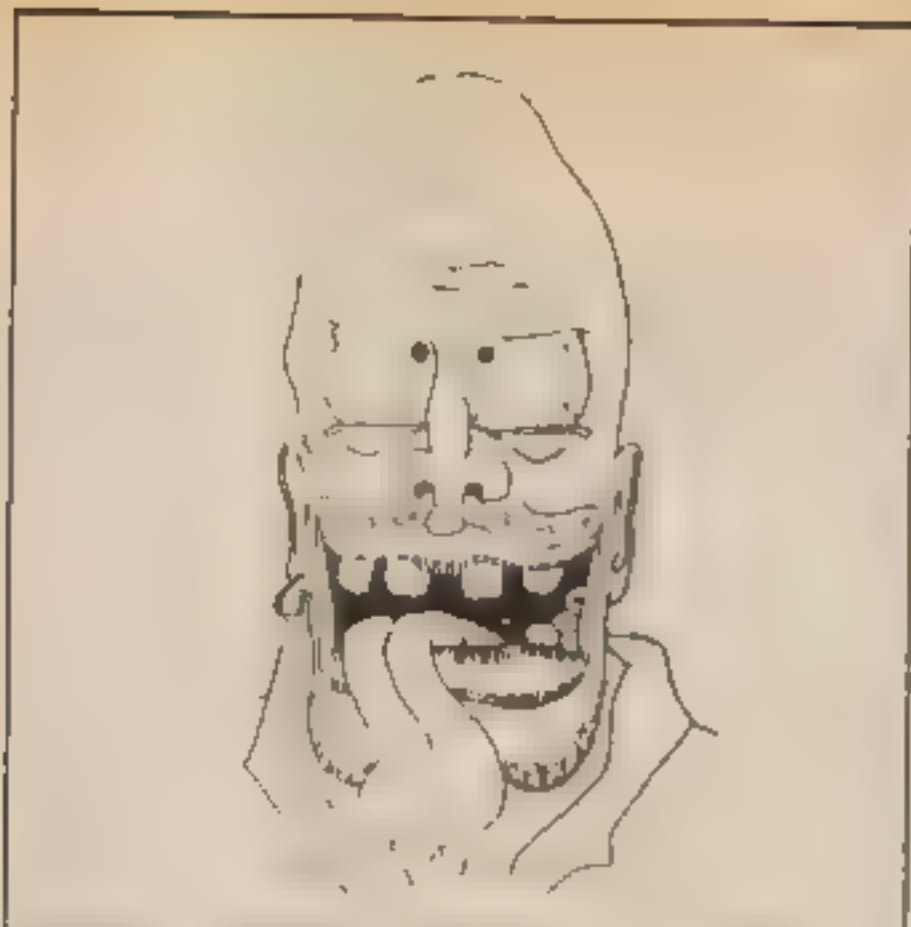
Canadian International champion **Abdullah the Butcher** is being managed once again by **Eddie Croachman**. The two had a parting of the ways last year but have since made up ... The Bahamas title was declared vacant after champion **Bad News Allen** was unable to defend it due to a neck injury suffered at the hands of **Kevin Sullivan** ... **Bam Bam Bigelow** refused to pay a

Tommy Rogers slugs **Mike Davis**. **The Fantastics'** World Class tag team title was held up after a disputed match with **The Rock 'n' Roll R.P.M.s**.

\$5,000 fine imposed on him and **Jerry Lawler** by Mid-Southern officials and was suspended for 30 days. Lawler and Bigelow combined to injure **Tommy Rich** ... **The Missing Link** has signed to wrestle in the Deep South area for a brief while.

Universal Wrestling Federation officials are very upset with **Terry Taylor**. The popular Taylor has been showing up late to defend the tag team belts with **Chris Adams**, leaving Adams on his own in many matches. Also, he has been ignoring Adams' tags and taunting the fans. It's very hard to believe that this perennial fan favorite is changing his tune.

That's all for now. See you at ringside! □



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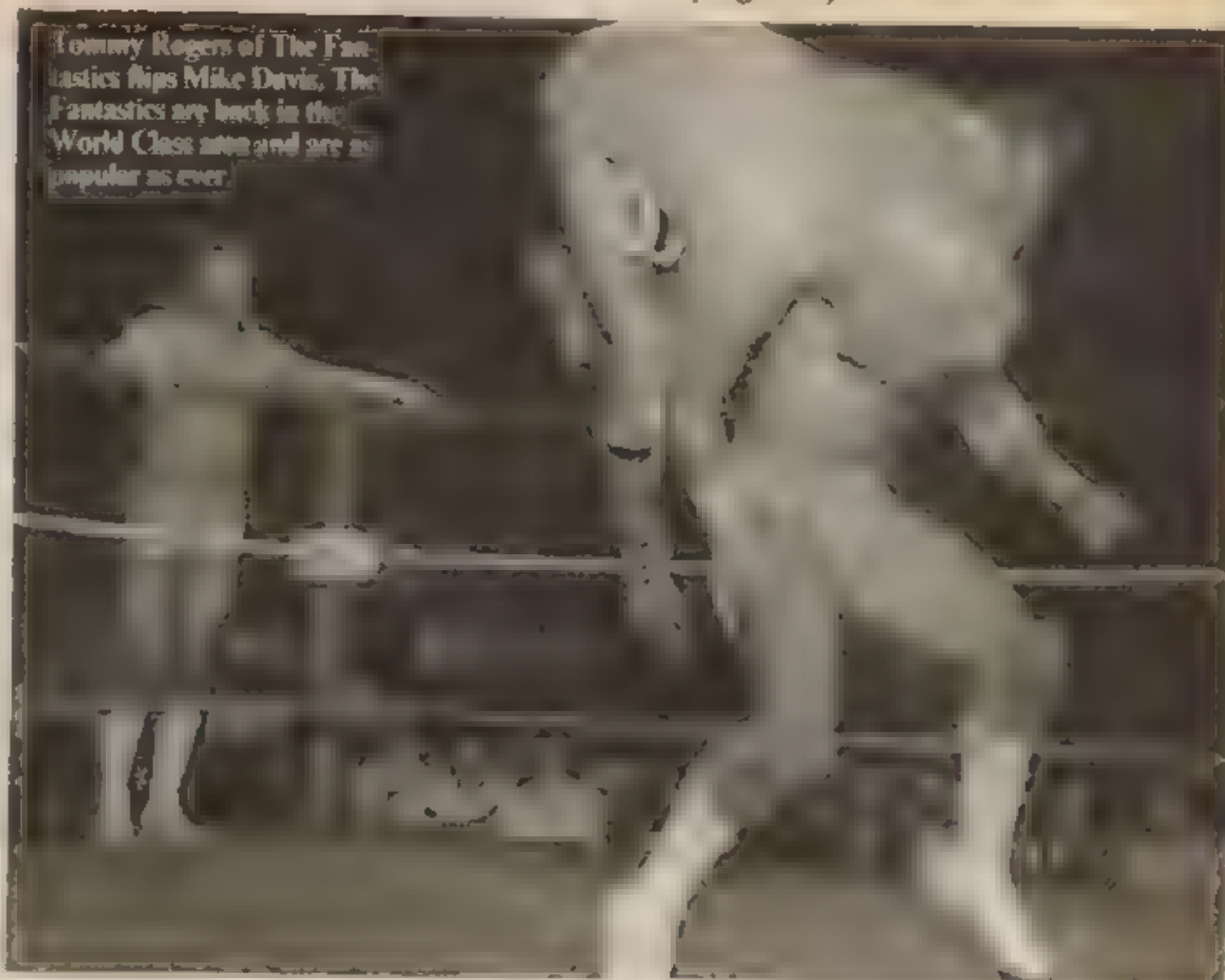
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KING'S COURT

(Continued from page 10)



tusion of new talent has taken Texas by storm: Nord the Barbarian, Eric Embry, The Fantastics, The RPMs, Jeep Swenson, Jack Victory, and El the Eliminator. Once the awkwardness of seeing so many new faces at once wears off, I think the fans will really take to the new World Class roster. The glory days of World Class seem years behind right now, but I think they might also be months ahead. I hope I'm right.

NEWS

Scott Hall slumps in the Florida area. When Hall, a former AWA World tag team champion (with Curt Hennig), traveled to Florida, it was expected he would storm the area in much the same way Lex Luger did last year—and in much the same way Luger is succeeding in the World Championship area right now. Well, Hall hasn't succeeded as many expected, and, in fact, I've received several eyewitness reports that he's not looking as good as he did when he first entered the area. Has he collapsed under the pressure of public expectation? Are there personal problems impeding his career progress? Only Hall himself knows the answers to those questions. But I do know this: Scott Hall, in my mind

at least, is no longer the can't-miss superstar he was a year ago. The potential is still there for the perfectly proportioned 290-pounder, but there are no guarantees in life, and he's going to have to work very, very hard to reach that potential.

•

You may have already noticed that Liz Hunter's "On Assignment" column has been replaced this issue by David Rosenbaum's "No Holds Barred," usually seen in *Inside Wrestling*; "On Assignment" will now be seen each month in *Inside Wrestling*; "No Holds Barred" will appear in *PWI* from now on.

This decision is not intended to cast any aspersions on Liz and her writing. She does a fine job, though I wish her on-again-off-again feud with Eddie Ellner would be off—permanently. It is more intended to provide full-time staffer Rosenbaum a regular spot in *PWI*, where part-time freelancer Hunter formerly has been. Hunter will retain her column space, and Rosenbaum will have the *PWI* slot he deserves—and has earned.

And Eddie Ellner has a column in *Inside Wrestling*, so I suppose the Ellner-Hunter feud will continue. And continue. And continue. □

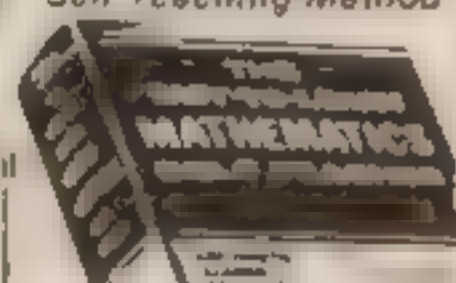
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NO HOLDS BARRED

(Continued from page 18)

fans seem pretty fed up with the once-popular JYD. *Adieu, Dog!*

The Rougeau Brothers vs. Brutus Beefcake & Greg Valentine. Weeks later, I'm still not sure why Valentine got so mad at Beefcake. They bumped in the middle of the ring, but from where I was sitting, it looked like an honest mistake. Obviously, Valentine had a bone to pick with Beefcake and grabbed the opportunity. Beefcake is left standing in the ring afterward, and it's a long walk back to the dressing room. It's also a long walk to the bathroom from where I'm sitting, but that's where I'm going. Have to return those beers.

Roddy Piper vs. Adrian Adonis. If Paul Jones or Jimmy Valiant had seen the way Brutus Beefcake shaved Adonis' hair after the match, they would've laughed. Down in the NWA, they know how to shave a man's head. Beefcake had a dull razor. Very little of Adonis' hair actually came off, but the crowd went nuts anyway. This is a very understanding crowd. I, for one, demand a reshave.

The British Bulldogs & Tito Santana vs. The Hart Foundation & Danny Davis. Some fat slob sitting one row back keeps on shouting, "Get out of the ring Davis, you bum!" He's said it about 45 times, but what bothers me even more is the aroma coming from his body. This pig hasn't showered in about a month, and he obviously got a hold of some of those Silverdome hotdogs. Somebody's gonna have to air this place out afterward!

Koko B. Ware vs. Butch Reed. And I'm going back to the concession stands

Rick Steamboat vs. Randy Savage. The greatest WWF match I've ever seen. From start to finish, this is an incredible bat-

tle. I've never seen momentum switch as much as it did here. By the time the thing ended and Steamboat had pinned Savage for the Intercontinental title, everyone around me was emotionally exhausted. I had the feeling a sports fan gets after witnessing something special, live and in person.

Jake Roberts vs. The Honky Tonk Man. Given the choice, I would've left the stadium before this match and come back afterward. I hate snakes, and don't even like to be in the same building with them. So, I head off to the bathroom, find an empty stall, and hide. "Damien will never find me here," I'm thinking.

The Killer Bees vs. Nikolai Volkoff & The Iron Sheik. As a big fan of the UWF, I'm excited when Hacksaw Jim Duggan storms into the ring before the match and keeps Volkoff from finishing the Russian national anthem. Duggan is a great star, an outstanding wrestler, but methinks he'll get lost in the WWF shuffle. The crowd responds to him really well, however. I hope Vince is listening.

Hulk Hogan vs. Andre the Giant. I've only heard a crowd this loud two other times: Game seven of the 1986 World Series at Shea Stadium and game six of the last-ever ABA playoffs at the Nassau Coliseum. Incredible. Being here is more than half the fun. Those around me gasp in horror when it looks like Andre has pinned Hogan. But Hogan fights back, wins the match with a stunning pinfall, and poses for the crowd. Everybody goes nuts. They love this man, but I don't know why. Give me Ric Flair any time. I'm disappointed that Andre lost, but I'm not disappointed with the day's events. This was definitely worth the trip to Detroit. I hope Peter feels the same way. □

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PRIZE CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 31)

BIGELOW: I was just trying to be as different as possible. I had nothing against the U.S. Hey, this is a great country, but I did what felt right at the time.

RODRIGUEZ: Let's talk about your suspension.

BIGELOW: Yeah, what about it?

RODRIGUEZ: You and Lawler were each fined \$5,000 for ramming Tommy Rich into the ringpost and injuring his groin. Lawler has paid the fine, but you refused to, so you were suspended. Why didn't you pay? Money problems?

BIGELOW: It's not the money, it's a matter of principle. Rich got what he deserved during the normal course of a match. He did the same thing to Jerry just a few months ago.

SAKS: Yes, but Rich and Idol also were fined \$5,000 for doing it.

BIGELOW: The Mid-Southern officials shouldn't have imposed a penalty in the first place. It didn't make any sense. This is a rough sport. Things occasionally get out of hand. We can't be penalized for every minor infraction.

ROSENBAUM: I would hardly call a groin injury a minor infraction. That's a career-threatening injury. No matter what you think of Rich, it's wrong.

BIGELOW: Come off it, man. If he can't take it he shouldn't be wrestling. I'm a big man. I can't be worried about whether somebody gets hurt when I beat them up. I wouldn't be in this business if I did.

APTER: You may be Jerry Lawler's partner, but you haven't changed that much.

BIGELOW: Yeah, Apter, I'm really worried about what you think.

SAKS: Before this discussion degenerates, I'd like to ask Bam Bam what he'll be doing during his suspension.

BIGELOW: Going to Japan, where the people really appreciate me. I'm a hero there, and I make a lot of money. Some people say I have a more promising future wrestling there than I do in America.

RODRIGUEZ: Ever thought about stay-



Bigelow bloodies Tommy Rich. When Jerry Lawler asked the 390-pounder for help in his feud against Rich and Austin Idol, Bigelow was there.

ing there?

BIGELOW: Sure, but if you're talking about real fame, this is the only place to wrestle. If I want to win a world title, I have to wrestle here. As long as I get a fair shake, I'll do all right here.

APTER: Bam Bam, what's the real story behind your split with Larry Sharpe?

BIGELOW: Larry and I decided that it would just be better to go our own ways for a while. There's no animosity between us. We've had a good partnership over the past two years. If it weren't for Larry, I probably wouldn't be wrestling. I felt this would be the right time to take care of my own career.

ROSENBAUM: Have you received any offers from other managers?

BIGELOW: Lots. Of course, I can't mention any names, but some of the most famous managers have offered me very lucrative contracts. But I just tell them I can take care of myself.

APTER: Will Sharpe ever be your manager again, or do you think one of these other managers would better suit you?

BIGELOW: If I ever do have a manager again, it will probably be Larry because

he's done so much for my career. I don't think these other guys would be willing to spend much time on my affairs, because they have other men to manage.

SAKS: Do you plan to spend most of your time teaming with Lawler, or will you go after one of the singles titles?

BIGELOW: No reason I can't do both. I had the Mid-Southern title before and I want it again. I'm perfectly capable of holding a singles and a tag title at the same time. I really believe I'm the best wrestler in this area, and I'm going to prove it.

APTER: You're an excellent wrestler, but holding two titles at once is a tall order. Wrestling history is full of men who have tried and failed. Usually one of the belts is lost rather quickly.

BIGELOW: I'm not like everybody else. Most guys can't do it because they only concentrate on the singles title. If Lawler's my partner, there won't be any problem with concentration. He knows how to keep his partner's mind on the match. I guess that's one of the reasons he's the "King."

ROSENBAUM: What wrestler here has given you the roughest time?

BIGELOW: Well, there are two big guys who give me trouble, Big Bubba and Goliath. They're even bigger than I am, and they're dangerous. Another guy is Tommy Rich. He's not that big, but he'll go after you. Remember, he is a former world champion.

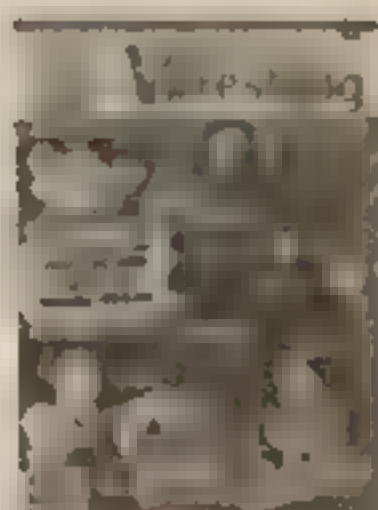
RODRIGUEZ: Rich told me that he and Austin Idol would have no problem with you and Lawler.

BIGELOW: Rich is good, but he likes to shoot his mouth off. Let's see them step in the ring with us, then we'll see what happens. Jerry and I are the two best wrestlers around here. It's not even close.

SAKS: One final question. How much longer do you think you'll stay here?

BIGELOW: All I can say is that I try to be the best wherever I wrestle. It doesn't matter who I'm in there against or what town I'm in. I won't rest until I'm recognized as the best. □

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HOGAN-ANDRE

(Continued from page 34)



Andre uses his 525-pound frame to smash Hogan into the turnbuckle. Andre actually had the advantage for most of the bout.

gan. As the years went by, Andre put on weight and wrestled less and less in singles matches. His ability deteriorated, but not enough to prevent people from wondering what would happen if Andre fought Hogan. And certainly, the one blemish on Hogan's record was that he had never defeated Andre the Giant. But they were best friends, and everyone assumed it would never happen.

Seven years is a long time. In 1987, Andre is a hated man, managed by the notorious Bobby "The Brain" Heenan, and Hogan is the ultimate fan favorite. But, just like in 1980, their much-anticipated confrontation took place in a gigantic stadium and shook the entire wrestling world.

An incredible 93,173 fans packed the Silverdome for WrestleMania III, the largest indoor crowd in North America for any event, resulting in a paid gate of almost \$1.6 million. Another 450,000 people watched on closed-circuit television (as of press time, figures still weren't in on pay-per-view). The undercard, which included Rick Steamboat defeating

Randy Savage for the Intercontinental title, was one of the greatest in the long and storied history of the WWF. Everyone in attendance waited three hours, however, for the main event, the most anticipated wrestling battle of all time.

To his credit, Andre composed himself following the failed pin attempt and continued his attack. The years of frustration over never getting a title shot seemed to be pouring out of Andre in the form of increased energy. Each time Hogan tried to reverse the momentum, Andre regained the upper hand. The Giant was able to clamp on a bearhug and hold it for two minutes and 34 seconds.

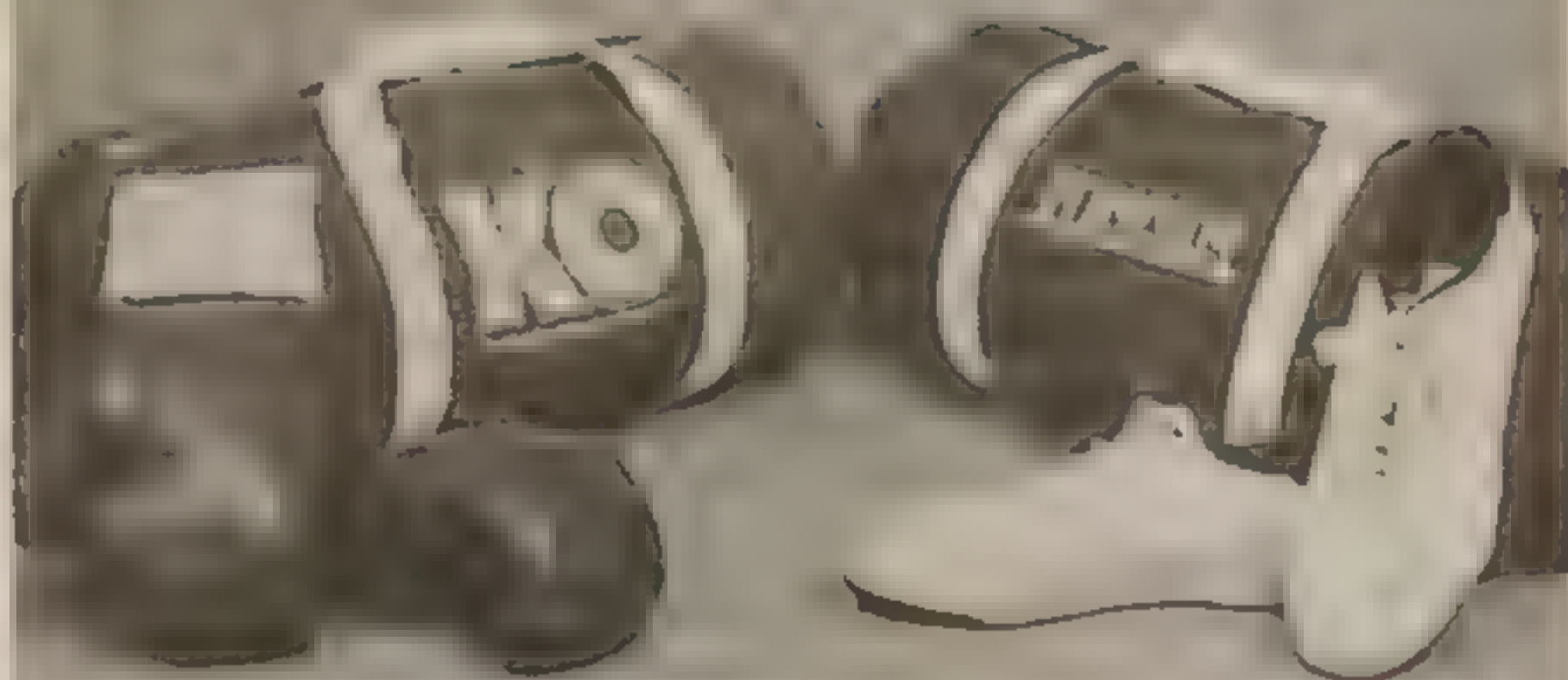
Finally, Hogan fell out of the ring and Andre followed him. Andre tried to hit Hogan with a headbutt, but the champion moved out of the way and Andre hit his head on the ringpost. Hogan then pulled away the mat covering the floor and tried to piledrive Andre on the plywood floor. But Andre backdropped Hogan to the floor and threw him into the ring.

By this time, however, Andre was spent. He had done everything he could to weaken Hogan but couldn't go in for the pin. Was it age? Was it weight? Or was it an inner respect for the champion? Probably, it was a combination of all three. The beginning of the end for Andre came when he tossed Hogan into the ropes but missed with a foot. Hogan clotheslined Andre, and then, in perhaps the most memorable moment of WrestleMania III, executed the bodyslam. One legdrop later, it was all over.

Will these two superstars ever meet again? That remains to be seen. As of press time, there was no word on a return match. But afterward, as a victorious Hogan celebrated in the ring and the cheers of the fans rained down, Andre had only this to say as he and a dejected Bobby Heenan were driven to the dressing room in the mobile mini-ring:

"I'll be back." □

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BALTIMORE ARENA (Baltimore, MD): Hulk Hogan beat Kamala in a steel cage match . . . Randy Savage & Hercules Hernandez defeated Rick Steamboat & Billy Jack Haynes . . . Koko B. Ware won by disqualification over Paul Orndorff . . . The Honky Tonk Man pinned Pedro Morales . . . The Islanders beat the Rougeaus . . . Hackzaw Jim Duggan beat Samoan Sika . . . Dino Bravo defeated S.D. Jones . . . Paul Roma pinned Steve Lombardi . . . Brad Rheingans beat Moondog Spot.

—Al Sotto

BROWN COUNTY ARENA (Green Bay, WI): Tom Stone pinned Gary Sagonovich . . . Buck Zumhofe pinned Brian Knobbs . . . Super Ninja & Mr. Saito beat Leon White & Buck Zumhofe (who filled in for an injured Curt Hennig) . . . Jimmy Snuka pinned Col. DeBeers in a strap match . . . The Midnight Rockers defeated Buddy Rose & Kevin Kelly by disqualification when Sherri Martel jumped into the ring.

—Jeff Ponio

CIVIC AUDITORIUM (Omaha, NE): Dino Bravo beat Brad Rheingans . . . Dick Slater pinned Jimmy Jack Funk . . . Hackzaw Jim Duggan pinned Iron Mike Sharpe . . . Tom Zenk and Brutus Beefcake battled to a draw . . . Rick Martel defeated Greg Valentine by disqualification . . . Hulk Hogan pinned Hercules Hernandez . . . George Steele, The Crusher, & Jake Roberts defeated Paul Orndorff, Harley Race, & The Honky Tonk Man when Roberts pinned Orndorff.

—Sean Reagan

COPPS COLISEUM (Hamilton, Ontario): Hulk Hogan pinned Kamala . . . Randy Savage defeated Islander Haku by countout . . . Rick Steamboat defeated Adrian Adonis by disqualification . . . Hercules Hernandez and Billy Jack Haynes were both counted out of the ring . . . Hillbilly Jim pinned Samoan Sika . . . Koko B. Ware defeated Ron Bass by disqualification . . . George Welles beat Iron Mike Sharpe . . . Islander Haku won a "King of the Ring" battle royal.

—Andrew Cabilan

DC ARMORY-STARPLEX (Washington, DC): Tim Horner beat Johnny Ace . . . Lazer-Tron defeated Shaska Whatley . . . The Kansas Jayhawks defeated The M.O.D. Squad . . . Wahoo McDaniel beat Big Bubba Rogers by disqualification . . . Jim Garvin defeated Dennis Condrey by disqualification when Bobby Eaton interfered . . . Ron Garvin pinned Bobby Eaton using a small package . . . In a steel cage match, Rick Rude & Manny Fernandez needed the help of Paul Jones to defend their NWA World tag team belts against The Rock 'n' Roll Express.

—Lee Petry

THE FORUM (Los Angeles, CA): Bobby Jagers pinned Thunderfoot II . . . Dutch Mantel pinned Konga the Barbarian . . . The Rock 'n' Roll Express battled Lex Luger & Arn Anderson to a time-limit draw . . . Jim & Ronnie Garvin pinned The Midnight Express in a bunkhouse match . . . Tully Blanchard won by disqualification over Wahoo McDaniel . . . Manny Fernandez & Rick Rude won by disqualification over Dusty Rhodes & Nikita Koloff . . . Road Warrior Animal defeated Big Bubba Rogers by countout in a Louisville street fight . . . Ric Flair pinned Barry Windham.

—Scott Miller

JOPLIN MEMORIAL HALL (Joplin, MO): Steve Cox pinned Super Ninja . . . Sam Houston beat Mike Boyette . . . Savannah Jack beat The Angel of Death by disqualification . . . Terry Taylor & Chris Adams beat Eddie Gilbert & Iceman Parsons . . . One Man Gang pinned Ted DiBiase . . . Chavo Guerrero & Missing Link with Nicola (substituting for Dark Journey) defeated Michael Hayes & Buddy Roberts with Sunshine in a valet penalty box match.

—Jona Russell

KNOXVILLE CIVIC AUDITORIUM (Knoxville, TN): Adrian Street & Miss Linda defeated Rip Rogers & Brenda Britton in a mixed tag team match . . . Doug Furnas defeated El Lobo . . . Tom Pritchard defeated Larry Hamilton . . . Wendell Cooley & The Nightmares defeated Shogun, Tony Anthony, & Jerry Stubbs . . . Buddy Landell beat Tennessee Stud . . . Robert Fuller & Jimmy Golden defeated The Headhunters in a loser-leave-Tennessee match . . . Tony Anthony & Jimmy Golden beat Jerry Stubbs & Robert Fuller to win a \$50,000, 20-man, two-ring battle royal.

—Michelle Bigg

MAPLE LEAF GARDENS (Toronto, Ontario): In the first annual Frank Tunney Tag Team Tournament, with the winner to receive a WWF title match, first round action saw Demolition defeat The British Bulldogs by disqualification . . . The Can-Am Connection defeated Dan Spivey & Jerry Allen . . . Paul Orndorff & King Kong Bundy defeated Magnificent Muraco & Cowboy Bob Orton . . . The Killer Bees defeated Samoan Sika & Kamala . . . Second round results: Demolition defeated The Can-Ams by countout . . . The Killer Bees defeated Orndorff & Bundy . . . Semifinal action saw The Killer Bees defeat Demolition . . . In a WWF World title match, The Hart Foundation defeated The Killer Bees.

—John Belli



McINTYRE ARENA (Timmins, Ontario): Steve Strong & Gino Brito Jr. defeated Gilles "The Fish" Poisson & Richard Charland by disqualification ... Dan Kroffat & Armand Rougeau defeated Chuck "Pretty Boy" Simmes & Rocky Delaserra ... Floyd Creatchman defeated Gino Brito Jr. by disqualification in a taped fist match when Brito hit special referee Eddie Creatchman ... Sonny War Cloud defeated The Great Kharma by disqualification ... Denis Goulet pinned Leo Burke.

—Randy Vine

MEADOWLANDS ARENA (East Rutherford, NJ): In round one of a tag team tournament for a shot at the WWF tag champions, The Killer Bees defeated The Rougeau Brothers ... The Can-Am Connection defeated Paul Orndorff & King Kong Bundy by disqualification ... Magnificent Muraco & Cowboy Bob Orton defeated Demolition by disqualification ... Brutus Beefcake & Greg Valentine defeated The British Bulldogs by disqualification ... The Can-Am Connection defeated Pedro Morales & Dan Spivey ... In round two, Beefcake & Valentine defeated Muraco & Orton ... The Can-Am Connection defeated The Killer Bees ... In the semifinals, The Can-Am Connection beat Valentine & Beefcake ... In the final match, The Hart Foundation successfully defended the WWF World tag belts against The Can-Am Connection with the help of former referee Danny Davis.

—Eric Schulman

THE OIL PALACE (Tyler, TX): Sam Houston won a 20-man bunkhouse brawl ... One Man Gang beat Ted DiBiase in a UWF title match ... Steve Williams defeated Terry Gordy by disqualification ... Sting & Eddie Gilbert beat The Missing Link & Chavo Guerrero ... Missy Hyatt defeated Dark Journey with help from Sunshine ... Eli the Eliminator & Bill Irwin defeated Gary Young & Savannah Jack in a triple-jeopardy match.

—Gary Walton

QUINLAN HIGH SCHOOL GYM (Quinlan, TX): Eric Embry pinned Steve Doll ... Nord the Barbarian beat Scott Casey ... The Fantastics defeated Killer Tim Brooks & The Grappler ... Dingo Warrior beat Black Bart ... Kevin Von Erich pinned Al Madril.

—J.D. Woodall

SADOWSKI FIELD HOUSE (Ft. Knox, KY): Bam Bam Bigelow won a 14-man battle royal ... Jeff Jarrett, Paul Diamond, & Bam Bam Bigelow defeated Big Bubba, Goliath, & Downtown Bruno ... Soul Train Jones defeated Boy Tony ... J.T. Southern defeated Mr. Shima by disqualification ... Mr. Hilo & Alan West battled to a draw ... Brickhouse Brown defeated Tojo Yamamoto.

—Robert Wigginton

SHOWBOAT SPORTS PAVILION (Las Vegas, NV): David Peterson pinned Brian Knobbs ... Super Ninja & Mr. Saito defeated Mike Richards & Jake Milliman ... Curt Hennig beat

Tom Stone ... Kevin Kelly beat M.L. Williams ... The Blaster & Boris Zuhov easily defeated Jim Evans & Nacho Vererra ... Jerry Blackwell pinned Gary Sagonovich ... The Midnight Rockers beat Tom Stone & Pete Sanchez ... Col. DeBeers defeated Chuck Greely ... Nick Bockwinkel defeated Curt Hennig by disqualification in an AWA World title match ... Kevin Kelly & Buddy Rose defeated Mike Richards & Jim Evans ... Greg Gagne pinned Brian Knobbs ... Jerry Blackwell & Leon White beat The Blaster & Boris Zuhov by disqualification ... Jimmy Snuka defeated Col. DeBeers with Russ Francis serving as special referee.

—Jay Elliott Jr.

TINGLEY COLISEUM (Albuquerque, NM): Dusty Rhodes defeated Big Bubba Rogers in a lights out steel cage match ... Rick Rude & Manny Fernandez beat The Rock 'n' Roll Express ... Ric Flair pinned Barry Windham ... Road Warrior Animal & Nikita Koloff defeated Tully Blanchard & Arn Anderson ... Ronnie & Jim Garvin beat The Midnight Express ... Wahoo McDaniel beat Lex Luger by disqualification ... Dutch Mantel defeated Konga The Barbarian ... Bobby Jaggers pinned Thunderfoot II.

—Dominic Espinoza

UIC PAVILION (Chicago, IL): Nikita Koloff defeated Ric Flair by disqualification ... The Road Warriors won by disqualification over Rick Rude & Manny Fernandez ... Tully Blanchard beat Dusty Rhodes by disqualification ... The Rock 'n' Roll Express defeated Dick Murdoch & Ivan Koloff ... Baron Von Raschke lost to Arn Anderson when J.J. Dillon held Von Raschke's leg down ... Tim Horner pinned Ricky Lee Jones ... Bobby Jaggers defeated Thunderfoot II.

—Ben Rieck

RECAP: Barry Windham continues to be Ric Flair's most persistent challenger for the NWA World title ... Col. DeBeers has not been faring well in his feud against Jimmy Snuka ... The Hart Foundation has logged several successful title defenses, but generally against teams who are tired from wrestling their way through tournaments ... The Rock 'n' Roll Express can't seem to score the win over NWA world tag champs Manny Fernandez & Rick Rude, though Rick Morton & Robert Gibson continue to wrestle well ... Bam Bam Bigelow is looking good in the Mid-Southern area ... The Can-Am Connection is logging quite a few important wins ... Hackzaw Jim Duggan is looking good in his first few WWF bouts ... Road Warrior Hawk is resting his injured leg by cutting down on his match schedule, so Road Warrior Animal has been wrestling in singles bouts and with Nikita Koloff ... Kamala continues to trouble WWF World champion Hulk Hogan ... Thumbs up to our "Arena Report" correspondents, who have been sending in reports from many different areas of the country. Keep the variety up, folks!

WRESTLING

ENQUIRER

ANDRE THE GIANT: "I DEMAND A REMATCH"

Beaten Challenger And Manager Heenan Say Hogan Intimidated Ref

By BILL APTER

MONTREAL—Andre the Giant, who suffered the first pinfall loss of his career in the WrestleMania III main event against Hulk Hogan, has asked WWF officials for another match against the World champion.

"I demand a rematch," said a still-dejected Andre. The 7'5", 525-pound Giant was beaten by Hogan at the 12:01 mark of their Pontiac Silverdome encounter, but in the opening minute of the match appeared to have Hogan pinned. In fact, referee Joe Marella gave the three-count, but then looked around hesitantly and held up two fingers, signifying that Hogan lifted his shoulders just in time.

Andre and manager Bobby Heenan, however, insist that Marella was intimidated by Hogan. According to Andre, Hogan glanced at Marella just as the referee gave the three-

count—as if to say, “You’d better not take my title away from me.” Despite protests from Andre, the match went on.

"To say that one of our referees was intimidated is absolutely uncalled for," said a WWF official. "Mr. Marella is one of the finest referees in the game and has only the highest regard for the integrity of the World championship. Hogan raised his shoulders a fraction of a second before the three-count and it was too late for Joe to stop the momentum of his hand."

As of press time, WWF officials had yet to announce whether there would be a rematch. However, in light of the success of WrestleMania III—93,173 fans paid nearly \$1.6 million to see the match at the Silverdome—Andre-Hogan II is a near certainty, assuming the health of both participants.



Andre the Giant chokes Hulk Hogan against the ringpost during WrestleMania III. Andre and Bobby Heenan are demanding a rematch, saying that Andre actually

Crocketts Give Bob Horner A Wild Pitch



Former Atlanta Brave Bob Horner has been offered a chance to wrestle.

CHARLOTTE, NC—Third baseman Bob Horner, who played eight years with the Atlanta Braves before becoming a free agent, has been offered a contract that would allow him to get back into baseball—and become a professional wrestler.

Frances Crockett, the sister of NWA promoter Jim Crockett and franchise owner of the Charlotte O's of Class AA Southern League, has offered the 29-year-old \$3,001 a month to be a designated hitter for her minor league baseball team while also wrestling for Jim Crockett Promotions.

"We're dead serious," said Andy Kaplan, the team's assistant general manager. "We feel this is a great way for Bob to stay in shape until another team is willing to pay for his services."

Horner, a 230-pounder, would have to gain about 20 pounds to be a wrestler, according to Frances Crockett. His qualifications as a wrestler are unknown. He did slug four home runs in one game last year, but baseballs usually don't hit back.

Cage Door Opened For Freebirds



The Freebirds are no longer wrestling exclusively for the UWF.

By CRAIG PETERS

TULSA, OK—The Fabulous Freebirds have been released from their contract with the Universal Wrestling Federation.

Michael Hayes, Terry Gordy, and Buddy Roberts, three of the most well-known figures in all of wrestling, were to become free agents effective mid-April. "We're now free to wrestle

wherever we want," said Hayes, The Freebirds' ringleader. "We're free spirits and that's the way it should be. I don't like being held back by no contract. Besides, we were getting a raw deal over here."

Last year, The Freebirds signed a \$1 million contract to leave the World Class area and come to the UWF. But The Freebirds were beset by problems from the start with President Bill Watts, and last November protested when the UWF stripped Gordy of the heavyweight title.

Apparently, The Freebirds will part ways for a while. Hayes is working on a new record album and hoping to fulfill his dream of becoming a rock 'n' roll star. Gordy has contractual agreements with Japan, although he is still negotiating to stay with the UWF. Roberts is undecided and refused comment on his intentions.

New Promotion Offers Fans Public Stock

By DAVE ROSENBAUM

BOCA RATON, FL—Wrestling fans who have dreamt about owning their own federation will get their chance when 7,000,000 shares of Global Wrestling Alliance Incorporated are put up for public sale in late April.

The over-the-counter stock will probably open at 40 cents per share, according to sources, meaning that if every share is sold, \$2.8 million in capital will be raised. The operation is expected to start in September or October of 1987.

"I have every intention of GWA being a major name in the wrestling industry," said promoter Pat Schaeffer.

"I've got the money, talent, and experience behind me.

"It is not my intention to concentrate on the Continental United States," Schaeffer added. "Based on the way this is set up, we will operate on a worldwide basis. We are very entertainment oriented and our policy will be more toward the way the WWF runs its shows. Television is very important and we already have a syndicator."

Although Schaeffer would not reveal his talent pool, he said that all his wrestlers are either signed or have reached an agreement with Global.

AROUND THE GLOBE

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Makhan Singh, who feuded violently throughout the Stampede area with rookie sensation Owen Hart, lost a loser-leave-town match to one-half of the Viet Cong Express here. Singh was most recently vilified by the fans for a fire-throwing incident—Singh threw fire in Hart's face, blinding him temporarily in one eye and costing him the North American title.

TOKYO, JAPAN

The final round of the IWGP (International Wrestling Grand Prix) tag team tournament, sponsored by New Japan Pro Wrestling, saw a sellout crowd pack Korauken Hall to see Shiro Koshinaka and Keiji Mutoh defeat Akira Maeda and Nobuhiko Takada in what must be viewed as a stunning upset. Koshinaka pinned Takada at the 17:04 mark to claim the victory for his team.

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

TNT defeated Invader #1 at Hiram Bithorn Stadium here in the final round of a one-night tournament to determine the winner of the Antonino Rocca Gillette Cup and a \$25,000 prize. Other participants in the tournament included Tony Atlas, Bruiser Brody, Mighty Igor, Abdullah the Butcher, Jason the Terrible, and Dory Funk Jr.